

The Power of the Resurrection

Text: Philippians 3:10-11

Theme: The resurrection of Jesus provides not only salvation, but ongoing power to live, endure, and walk in holiness.

Introduction

Easter is more than a tradition—it is the foundation of the Christian faith. We gather to celebrate that Jesus Christ is alive.

Because He lives:

- sin can be forgiven
- life can be transformed
- hope is restored

This passage in Philippians reveals what it truly means to experience the power of the resurrection—not just as a past event, but as a present reality.

Key Truth

To know Christ is to experience both a personal relationship with Him and the transforming power of His resurrection in everyday life.

Scripture Reading

Philippians 3:10–11 (NIV)

“I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead.”

Point 1:

To Know Christ Is to Have a Personal Relationship

Philippians 3:8 (NIV)

“I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord...”

Study Notes

- “Knowing” Christ is not intellectual—it is relational
- It is more than knowing about Jesus; it is walking with Him
- A relationship with Christ:
 - begins with faith
 - continues daily

Supporting Scripture

- John 3:16 (NIV)
- Romans 10:9–10 (NIV)

Discussion Questions

1. What is the difference between knowing about Jesus and knowing Him personally?
2. When does a relationship with Christ begin?
3. What does an ongoing relationship with Christ look like?

Application

A relationship with Christ is not a one-time decision—it is a lifelong pursuit.

Point 2:

The Power of the Resurrection Defeats Sin and Death

Romans 3:23 (NIV)

“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.”

Romans 6:23 (NIV)

“For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Study Notes

- Sin separates us from God

- Death (physical and spiritual) is the result of sin
- Jesus:
 - died as our substitute
 - rose again in victory
- The resurrection confirms:
 - sin is defeated
 - death is overcome

Discussion Questions

1. Why is the resurrection essential to the gospel?
2. What does it mean that Jesus was our substitute?
3. How do the cross and resurrection work together?

Application

The same power that raised Jesus from the dead is the power that brings new life to believers.

Point 3:

Resurrection Power Enables Us to Endure Hardship

Philippians 3:10 (NIV)

“...participation in his sufferings...”

Supporting Scripture

- John 16:33 (NIV)
- 2 Timothy 3:12 (NIV)
- 2 Corinthians 12:9–10 (NIV)

Study Notes

- Following Christ includes hardship and difficulty

- Suffering is often the result of obedience
- God's power is most evident in our weakness

Discussion Questions

1. Why does following Christ often include suffering?
2. How does hardship strengthen our faith?
3. What does it mean that God's power is made perfect in weakness?

Application

Resurrection power does not remove hardship—it sustains us through it.

Point 4: Resurrection Power Enables Us to Walk in Holiness

Philippians 3:10 (NIV)

“...becoming like him in his death...”

Supporting Scripture

- Romans 6:6–7 (NIV)

Study Notes

- Believers are called to “die” to their old sinful nature
- We are no longer slaves to sin
- The resurrection empowers us to:
 - say no to sin
 - say yes to God

Discussion Questions

1. What does it mean to “die to sin”?
2. Why is it difficult to overcome certain sins?
3. How does the resurrection give us victory over sin?

Application

Victory over sin is not achieved by willpower alone, but by the power of Christ at work within us.

Point 5: The Ultimate Goal Is Eternal Life with Christ

Philippians 3:11 (NIV)

“...and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead.”

Study Notes

- Paul’s ultimate desire was not comfort, but Christ
- The goal of faith is:
 - not just avoiding hell
 - but being with Jesus forever
- Eternal life is centered on relationship with Christ

Discussion Questions

1. What was Paul’s ultimate goal in life?
2. How does eternity shape the way we live now?
3. What are you ultimately living for?

Application

A life centered on Christ looks forward to eternity with Him above all else.

Gospel Connection

The resurrection declares:

- Jesus lived a perfect life
- Jesus died in our place
- Jesus rose again in power

Because of this:

- we are forgiven
- we are made new
- we have eternal life

The invitation:

Repent of sin, place your faith in Jesus Christ, and follow Him.

Group Discussion

1. What stands out most to you about Philippians 3:10–11?
2. How would you define “knowing Christ”?
3. In what ways have you experienced hardship in following Jesus?
4. Where do you need God’s resurrection power right now?
5. What sin do you need to surrender to God?
6. How does the resurrection give you hope for the future?
7. By what power are you currently living—your own or God’s?

Personal Reflection

- Do I truly know Christ, or just know about Him?
- Am I walking in the power of the resurrection daily?
- Where do I need strength to endure hardship?
- Where do I need victory over sin?
- Is my life focused on Christ or temporary things?

Closing Prayer

Father, thank You for the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Thank You that because He lives, we have hope, forgiveness, and new life. Help us not only to believe in the resurrection,

but to live in its power every day. Strengthen us in our struggles, give us victory over sin, and deepen our relationship with You. May our lives reflect the reality that Jesus is alive. In His name, amen.