



WHY THE RESURRECTION MATTERS!

but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.

- John 20:31

If it was written, it was written for a purpose. Why would the resurrection be such a big deal? Wasn't the death of Christ enough? Spoiler alert, it's a REALLY BIG deal! And since it was written, there is a purpose for it in our lives. So since Christ has overcome death and sin, what do we do with that information? In pastor Steve's message this week, we evaluated the actions of "doubting Thomas" who gets a bad rap because he doubted the resurrection. But I would ask, are we any different? He hadn't seen Jesus yet and the others had, and now they were telling him a wild story of a man that he had just seen die on a cross. When finally he saw him, he said, my LORD. But "Jesus said to him, "Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." (John 20:29)

Thomas, just like us, had a choice, to believe something at face value, or explore it and find it to be true. And it's a shame that so many people reject the claims of Christ without ever exploring it. How much more shameful it is for the ones who simply take every word of a preacher and never fact-check it in the Bible? Those people can be easily misled because they do not know what truth is for themselves.

Because He Lives, We have a responsibility to explore His word and grow our faith. When we know the word, we can trust God at his word, THEN, we can trust God with the universe and every aspect of our lives. So what is stopping us from exploring his word for ourselves? What is stopping us from being in the community where our faith can truly grow? Is it fear?

Because He lives, We can be fearless!

Discussion Questions

1. How much emphasis do you put on the cross vs the resurrection? Why?
2. When you consider the resurrection, what is its significance to you? What did the resurrection 'prove'?
3. What is your responsibility as a believer?
4. What are some ways we can 'explore' God's Word more on our own and in fellowship?
5. If discipleship means we need to 'walk with God and others', What are some ways to be with God's people more?