

Title: He Is Risen - Scripture: Luke 24:1–8; John 11:1–44

Main Idea: Because Jesus is risen, we know it is finished. That means we have hope beyond death and new life right now.

1. The Resurrection Confirms It Is Finished

Jesus declared “It is finished” on the cross, meaning the payment for sin has been fully made. The resurrection proves that claim is true. Jesus did not stay in the grave, which means sin and death no longer have the final word. Because He is risen, we can trust everything He said. This gives us confidence not only in eternity, but in our relationship with God today.

Truth: The resurrection validates the cross and secures our salvation.

2. Resurrection Is Not Just for Someday, But for Today

Many people, like Martha, believe in resurrection for the last day but miss what Jesus wants to do right now. Jesus said, “I am the resurrection and the life,” not “I will be someday.” He is a God who brings dead things to life in the present. The resurrection is not only about heaven in the future, it is about transformation in the here and now.

Truth: Jesus offers resurrection life in this life, not just the next.

3. You Must Respond to the Call to Come Out

Jesus called Lazarus out of the grave, but Lazarus had to walk out. In the same way, Jesus calls us out of dead places in our lives, but we must respond. Many people hear the call but remain where they are. Fear, comfort, or uncertainty can keep us stuck. New life may look different, but it is still better than death.

Truth: Jesus calls us out of death, but we must choose to respond.

4. Resurrected Life Requires Leaving the Old Behind

After Lazarus came out, Jesus told others to remove his grave clothes. New life requires new living. Old habits, patterns, and relationships that belonged to the “grave” must be left behind. Resurrected people do not continue to live like they are still dead. Growth often happens in community as we help one another walk in new life.

Truth: You cannot walk in new life while holding on to old ways.

Reflection:

Where in your life do you need resurrection? What is Jesus calling you to leave behind? What would it look like to step out of the grave and begin walking in new life today?

Devotion 1: The Empty Tomb Means It Is Finished

Scripture: Luke 24:5–6 “Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen!”

Reflection: The resurrection is not just a celebration, it is confirmation. Jesus said “It is finished” on the cross, but the empty tomb proves it. If Jesus had remained in the grave, we would still question whether sin had truly been paid for. But He did not stay there. He walked out. That means sin has been dealt with fully and finally. Too often we still live as if we owe something, as if we are still carrying guilt or trying to earn what Jesus already accomplished. The empty tomb reminds us that the work is done. We are not trying to achieve forgiveness, we are living from it.

Challenge: Where are you still carrying guilt or trying to earn what Jesus already finished? Take time today to confess it and release it to God, trusting that it is truly finished.

Devotion 2: Resurrection Is for Right Now

Scripture: John 11:25 “I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die.”

Reflection: Martha believed in resurrection, but she pushed it into the future. She knew about the last day, but she did not expect Jesus to move in the present moment. It is easy to do the same. We believe heaven is coming, but we quietly assume certain areas of our life are beyond hope right now. Jesus corrects that thinking by declaring that He is the resurrection, not just later, but now. That means no situation is too far gone for Him to bring life into. It may not look the way we expect, and it may not be instant, but He is still in the business of raising what feels dead.

Challenge: Identify one area of your life where you have lost hope. Bring it before God today and ask Him to begin bringing life into that place.

Devotion 3: Come Out and Leave It Behind

Scripture: John 11:43–44 “Lazarus, come out!... Take off the grave clothes and let him go.”

Reflection: Jesus called Lazarus out of the grave, but Lazarus still had to walk out. Then the grave clothes had to come off. New life requires both a response and a change. Many people want resurrection without transformation. They want God to bring life, but they do not want to leave behind the habits, patterns, or relationships that led to death. Jesus offers real life, but it means stepping out of the cave and refusing to put the grave clothes back on. This is not about perfection, it is about direction. It is about choosing, day by day, to live like someone who has been made new.

Challenge: What “grave clothes” are you still holding onto? Take one practical step today to remove them and begin walking in the new life Jesus has given you.