



Message Series Guide

Easter Sunday

Resurrection Perspective

John 20:1-10

One moment in time can completely change our perspective about life. What we once believed was most important doesn't seem to matter anymore; and what was once meaningless, now has new purpose. John presents us with the narrative that lies at the heart of the Gospel. Jesus, who was crucified, has been raised. We watch as Mary, Peter, and an unnamed disciple (John) discover that Jesus' tomb is now empty; the outward and visible sign that Jesus has conquered death and a new creation has begun. We are witnesses to the moment when Mary and the two disciples have a complete change in perspective. Grief turns to joy. Confusion turns to clarity. Unbelief turns to faith. And sadness turns to good news that has been proclaimed throughout the ages, "I have seen the Lord."

READ:

John 20:1-10 • Revelation 21:4 • I Corinthians 15:18-20 • Romans 10:9

- Why was Mary coming to the empty tomb? What did she think had happened to the body of Jesus? Why is this significant? When Peter and John first heard from Mary, what was their reaction?
- When John arrived, what was his reaction to the seeing the empty tomb and the linen wrappings? What is meant by, "he saw and believed" (John 20:8)?
- When it comes to faith in Christ's death and resurrection, why is belief necessary? Is belief always enough? Why or why not? Why must genuine faith in Christ go beyond belief and include repentance and surrender?
- What did Peter and John not understand even after they visited Jesus' empty tomb? What were the ramifications of Christ's resurrection throughout the New Testament? What are the ramifications of Christ's resurrection for us today?
- How does the resurrection of Christ impact your view of death? What hope do we have because of Christ's resurrection? How does the resurrection shape our perspective of sharing the gospel?
- Some describe faith as an irrational leap in the dark. Why is this inaccurate and misleading? What is a better description of faith and belief in Christ?

DISCUSS:

- Discuss a moment in your life that changed your perspective or view of life? When has a positive event in your life appeared at first to be a confusing, unfortunate, or tragic event?
- If you had been either Mary, Peter or John, what thoughts would have run through your mind when you discovered the empty tomb? Describe a time when your faith was shaken because something didn't turn out like you expected.
- Why is it important to affirm that our faith rests on the objectively true, historical fact of Jesus' resurrection, not on subjective feelings? Why is important that we believe the Bible is factual and true?
- Do you usually respond to life's unexpected events with faith or fear?

PRAY:

Pray that your perspective of life and eternity is always based on your faith in Christ and hope of glory yet to come.

RESPOND:

Commit this week to tell someone about the empty tomb of Christ and how resurrection gives you hope.



Sermon Notes

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John 20:1-10

Three Reasons Why the Resurrection of Jesus Matters:

1. Jesus' Resurrection Silenced the Fear of Death
2. Jesus' Resurrection Gave Us the Victory over Death
3. Jesus' Resurrection Gives Us New Life in the Face of Death

QUOTE:

"A dead Savior cannot save anybody. The resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead is as much a part of the gospel message as his sacrificial death on the cross...The resurrection proves that Jesus Christ is what he claimed to be, the very Son of God." - Warren Wiersbe

Because of the resurrection our sins are forgiven, our life is renewed, our hope is permanent, and our eternity is secured.