

Discussion Questions



Key Takeaways

1. **The Empty Tomb** - Jesus rose on the third day just as He promised, witnessed by over 500 people.
2. **The Resurrection Changes Everything Now** - The power of the resurrection isn't just for our future hope; it transforms our present reality.
3. **The Invitation of Easter** - Easter invites us to live out the victory that Christ's resurrection provides every single day.

Discussion Questions

Understanding the Text

1. **The Disciples' Absence:** Why do you think none of Jesus' disciples were at the tomb waiting for the resurrection, even though Jesus had told them three times He would rise again? What does this reveal about human nature and faith?
2. **Evidence of the Resurrection:** Paul mentions over 500 witnesses who saw Jesus alive after the resurrection. Why was this detail important for the early church? How does it strengthen your faith today?

Personal Reflection

3. **The Central Question:** "Would we have been at the tomb awaiting the resurrection?" Be honest—based on how you live your faith today, do you think you would have been there? Why or why not?

4. **Believing vs. Living:** The sermon challenges us to examine whether we live in a way that reflects what we say we believe. What are some areas in your life where there might be a gap between what you believe about Jesus and how you actually live?
5. **Present Power:** The sermon emphasizes that "the resurrection is a present reality." How have you personally experienced the power of the resurrection in your daily life? Share a specific example if you can.

Going Deeper

6. **1 Corinthians 15 Argument:** Paul argues that if there's no resurrection, our faith is futile and we should just "eat, drink, and be merry." How does belief in the resurrection change the way you approach:
 - Difficult circumstances?
 - Daily decisions?
 - Long-term goals and purpose?
7. **Victory Over What?** The sermon mentions victory in marriages, addictions, grief, failures, and hopelessness. What area of your life needs the resurrection power of Jesus right now? How can this group support you in that?
8. **Living at the Tomb:** What does it practically look like to live as if you're "waiting at the tomb" for Jesus to fulfill His promises? What would change in your daily routine, relationships, or priorities?

Practical Applications

This Week's Challenge

Choose ONE of the following to put into practice this week:

Option 1: Scripture Meditation

- Read 1 Corinthians 15 out loud (as suggested in the sermon)
- Journal about what stands out to you
- Identify one promise from that chapter to claim for your life

Option 2: Resurrection Inventory

- Make a list of Jesus' promises from Scripture
- Next to each promise, honestly assess: "Am I living as if I believe this?"
- Choose one area where you'll intentionally align your actions with your beliefs

Option 3: Testimony Sharing

- Reflect on how the power of the resurrection has changed your life
- Share your story with at least one person this week (believer or non-believer)
- If you haven't given your life to Christ, talk to someone in the group about taking that step

Option 4: Daily Declaration

- Each morning this week, declare out loud: "Jesus is risen! His resurrection power is at work in my life today!"
- Throughout the day, pause to remember this truth when facing challenges
- Journal at the end of each day about how this awareness changed your perspective