

WARM-UP

- Recall a time when your favorite sports team won despite lagging behind. How did you feel?
- Have you seen a plant that grew back after being cut to the ground? What was your reaction?
- Have you ever told someone about something you saw or experienced, and they didn't believe it at first? How did you convince them?

WORD *³For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁴that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁵and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve.*

1 CORINTHIANS 15:3-5

(Read also **1 CORINTHIANS 15:6-8, 12-19.**)

Christ's death did not end at the cross or even in the tomb. When all seemed lost, God turned an apparent defeat into a humbling and glorious victory. This victory is woven throughout the Scriptures and is where we stand as Christians. Without the resurrection, there would be no gospel, and everything we believe in would be untrue. Today, we will look at what Christ's resurrection means for us and how we can share the good news of His triumph over sin and death.

1 | Because Jesus resurrected, we are no longer dead in our sins.

And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. **1 CORINTHIANS 15:17**

(Read also **ROMANS 6:8**.)

When Jesus conquered the grave, He didn't just triumph over death—He also defeated the power of sin over our lives. Because of His sacrifice on the cross and through faith in what He had done, believers will no longer be condemned for their sins. Furthermore, we have the grace to say no to sin and walk right with God. How has this truth helped you in times of temptation and confusion? What does Romans 6:13 say about how we should present ourselves to God?

2 | Because Jesus resurrected, we are no longer hopeless.

¹⁸Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. ¹⁹If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied. **1 CORINTHIANS 15:18-19**

We have a future hope because of what Jesus did on the cross. Our faith is not in vain. There is more to this life than the trials we face, and knowing that we have hope in Christ helps us look to what is ahead. This hope is not just for the future; even if we suffer and die, our hope is anchored on the truth that we will be raised again in Christ and we will be with Him forever. This is the blessed hope of the believers.

How does the hope of our resurrection change our perspective of the trials and hardships that we face today? What does 2 Corinthians 4:17–18 say about the hope we have in Christ?

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3 | **Because Jesus resurrected, we are not false witnesses.**

*¹⁴And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. ¹⁵We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. **1 CORINTHIANS 15:14–15***

Christ's resurrection is the cornerstone of the gospel. It is the validation of Jesus' deity and ministry. And it is not just a story; it is a historical fact that was witnessed by over 500 people (1 Corinthians 15:6). Knowing this truth does not just prove the basis of our faith; it also gives us the confidence to reach out and be a witness of God's love and sacrifice. How does knowing that we are bearers of the most important truth affect our confidence in proclaiming the gospel to others?

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As we contemplate the magnitude of God's sacrifice, may it remind us to proclaim the good news to the people around us. May it give us an opportunity to show them the extent of God's grace and love for us.

APPLICATION

- Take time to reflect on what it took to make us alive in Christ. How can you help others see the grace and righteousness that only come from God?
- How has God given you hope? Share this with someone who is struggling to find hope at this time.
- Think of someone who needs to hear the message of Christ's sacrifice. Ask God for an opportunity to share it with that person this week.

PRAYER

- Thank God that sin and death have no hold on you. Praise Him for His grace that abounds in your life.
- Surrender your every fear and worry to God. Pray that He will give you the strength to hold on to the hope that you have in Him, no matter the circumstance.
- Praise God for your salvation in Christ. Seek wisdom, grace, and boldness as you testify of the hope and victory you have in Him.



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