

Resurrection Sunday // Luke 24:1-12, I Peter 1:3-9

Study the passages above and read the notes below for an introduction to the study.

This weekend, Pastor J.D. asks us to set aside any reservations we may have about the Christian life, and honestly consider the Resurrection. Through the presentation of evidence and the Scripture, we have seen that the Resurrection of Jesus Christ is not only the simplest explanation for the empty tomb, but also the most reasonable. Twentieth Century German theologian Wolfhart Pannenberg once said, “The evidence for Jesus’ Resurrection is so strong that nobody would question it except for two things: First, it is a very unusual event. And second, if you believe it happened, you have to change the way you live.”

Pastor J.D. also demonstrated that the Resurrection is the starting point of our faith. It is because of the glorious hope that comes to us in the Resurrection that we can have the assurance needed when we are called to identify with Jesus in both his suffering and his obedience. The Apostle Peter offered this same explanation in his writing to First Century believers whose lives were being changed by the reality of the Resurrection in I Peter 1:3-9, which we will study in this week’s guide.

Answer the questions below and come ready to discuss them at your small group meeting this week.

Study Questions

1. Reread Luke 24:1-12 and look back at your sermon notes. How did the presentation of evidence in the sermon this weekend give you confidence in the truth of Christianity?
2. How does the reality of the Resurrection give you confidence in God’s plan for humanity?
3. **Read I Peter 1:3-9.** Why is placing your hope in Christ more valuable than anything you could receive on Earth?
4. According to Peter, how is the Resurrection a life-changing event even 2,000 years after the fact?

5. In what ways do we get to identify with both the suffering and the hope of Jesus when we embrace the Christian life?

Prayer Guide

- Read I Peter 1:24-25. Pray and thank God that you were exposed to God's good news.
- Read I Peter 3:15. Pray that the Lord would give you boldness and wisdom in sharing the hope of the gospel with your family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers.
- Read I Peter 2:9. Pray that God would do mighty works in the church so that the light of the gospel could be proclaimed to all nations.
- Read I Peter 2:20-21. Pray for the endurance in faith of all believers through times of both prosperity and persecution.