

THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE

APRIL 9TH, 2023 // RESURRECTION WEEKEND

THE STORY (JOHN 19:17-42) CRUCIFIED

One of the most horrible ways to die, crucifixion, was meant to humiliate the guilty.

- **Jesus wasn't tried, beaten, stripped, and hung on a cross between criminals because He was guilty or forced. He was fully in control as He obeyed the Father's will. He went because you and I are guilty.**

DEATH

On that cross, Jesus experienced darkness, thirst, and isolation.

- **Hebrews 4:15 says that Jesus was tempted in every way that we are. Here, we see Him endure the most challenging part of life: He was rejected, suffering, and alone. He freely gave Himself because we could not.**

THE EMPTY TOMB (JOHN 20:1-10) RESURRECTION

The tomb was empty, but Mary, Peter, and John didn't understand.

- **WE SHOULD understand!**
- **Jesus' resurrection means:**
 - He is who He said He was—fully God.
 - He defeated sin and death.
 - We also can experience resurrection.

MARY THE HEARTBROKEN (JOHN 20:11-18) HOPELESS SITUATION

Mary stands outside the tomb, heartbroken and hurting. She heard His voice, but then she heard Him say her name.

- **Jesus' resurrection means that in the middle of your seemingly hopeless situation, there is Hope. He has been speaking, and He knows your name.**

THOMAS THE DOUBTER (JOHN 20:24-29) DOUBT

Thomas declares he will never believe without solid evidence.

- **Jesus' resurrection means that anyone who is cynical and full of doubt doesn't have to follow in blind faith. Christ has given proof that He is the Son of God, and is still saying: "Come, believe and follow Me."**

PETER THE FAILURE (JOHN 21:1-19) FAILURE

Peter knew Jesus, and he knew that Jesus knew EVERYTHING about him: his weakness, his denials, his failure.

- **Jesus' resurrection means there is redemption and forgiveness available for you: it's never too late. We will have trouble. We will fail. We still need a Savior.**

SACRIFICE

- Because of our sin, we cannot do this ourselves.
- **Jesus came as a ransom for our redemption. To redeem our connection with God.**
- **The ONLY one who could pay the price was Christ and He did it for US.**

PURPOSE

- Christ sacrificed Himself as the payment for our sins.
- **Because of His resurrection, we know sin and death were defeated.**
- **The purpose of Jesus' death and resurrection is OUR resurrection. The question is: Do we really care?**

LIFE

- Our world, our lives, can be full of hopelessness, doubt, and failure.
- **How many times will we have to read the truth, hear the truth, and see the truth before we will believe the truth?**
- **Sin is real. Death is real. We need a real Savior. Jesus is still saying, "Follow Me."**