

**Easter 2019**

“How the Resurrection is the Answer to Your Deepest Regrets”

1 Corinthians 15:1-4,20-26,54-56

All of us have regrets that can't be \_\_\_\_\_.

Our lives weave a story, but there's no \_\_\_\_\_.

We're part of a larger story that is \_\_\_\_\_.

The gospel, which is the message Jesus came to proclaim and to live out, is about a God who cares about the larger story that's \_\_\_\_\_ and about **your** story.

The Gospel explains that God cared enough to enter our broken story and suffer with us, but most importantly he came to suffer \_\_\_\_\_.

Jesus rose from the dead to get the story back \_\_\_\_\_.

**What is this new story God is inviting you into?**

It's a story where you...

1. F \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus
2. J \_\_\_\_\_ with others who are following
3. Receive God's \_\_\_\_\_
4. W \_\_\_\_\_ with Jesus
5. Are being \_\_\_\_\_
6. E \_\_\_\_\_ is your destiny
7. Live on \_\_\_\_\_.

**Missional Application**

God calls us to hold fast to the truth of Christ's resurrection and to proclaim this good news with great hope in Christ's return.

**Christ Connection**

The resurrection of Jesus is not merely an odd event from the past. It represents the beginning of the new world God has promised. Jesus' resurrection is the firstfruits of the future resurrection of his people, the guarantee that God's kingdom will come fully to earth, and the first nail in the coffin of death, which will one day be defeated forever.

### **Family Discussion Questions**

The following questions are based on Matthew 26:36-28:10; John 18:1-20:18.

1. What would it have been like for Jesus' followers to see the risen Jesus after experiencing the horrors of seeing him die on the cross?
2. What does the resurrection tell us about Jesus and about God's plans for us?
3. How can our family celebrate the resurrection this Easter?

### **Personal Reflection & Small Group Questions**

Please complete this study on your own, then bring it to your small group for discussion.

1. Looking back over your notes from this week's sermon, what particularly caught your attention, challenged you, or confused you?
2. Was (or is) believing in the resurrection of Jesus a difficult step for you?
3. Read 1 Corinthians 15:1-11. According to Paul, the gospel is not just what begins new life but also what frames daily life and our future. In verses 1-2, how does Paul show the past, present, and future implications of the gospel for our daily lives?

4. What is the basic content of the gospel according to verses 3-8?

5. Read 1 Corinthians 15:12-19 with this in mind: Paul's opponents in Corinth are not necessarily denying the resurrection of Christ, they are denying a future, physical resurrection for believers. They believe they have already been resurrected and that the resurrection is purely spiritual in nature. (As Greeks, they were put off by the biblical idea that matter matters and was created by God to be good.) How should we celebrate Easter in light of Paul's emphasis on the importance of Jesus' resurrection in these verses?

6. Read 1 Corinthians 15:20-28. How should the future resurrection frame how we think, feel, and act in our daily life?
7. In the sermon, Pastor Henry said we're part of a story that's off track and that Jesus rose from the dead to get the story back on track. Jesus invites us to a new story. Of the seven ways we live in this new story (see the outline), which one do you most need to focus on at this time in your life? And what does that mean for you in practical terms?