



The Reality of the Resurrection

The resurrection of Jesus is the foundation for the Christian faith, but it's also the foundation for the Christian life. The empty tomb is not simply a theological reality that happened 2000 years ago, it's a present reality that has real implications for our lives in 2024. No matter what conflict you find yourself in the middle of right now, Jesus' victory over death gives us victory over life.

Discussion Questions:

1. Share your favorite Easter tradition growing up or one that you currently have with your family.
2. **Read John 11:1-44**
3. How do you reconcile Jesus' love for Mary, Martha, and Lazarus (v. 5) and his decision to delay (v. 6)? Share a time where you felt like God delayed His answer to your prayer. What does this teach us about His timing?
4. What do Mary and Martha's reaction (v. 21 & 32) teach us about the nature of Jesus and our relationship with Him? Have you ever cried out to God like this?
5. If Jesus already had a plan to raise Lazarus, why does He weep (v. 35)? How does this deepen our understanding of His humanity?
6. In vs. 25, Jesus makes one of his famous "I Am" statements. What does this truth mean for our own life and death? Do you feel like you live like this is a true statement? Explain.
7. As you think about your journey of faith, what "tombs" has Jesus called you out of? How have you experienced a personal "resurrection" from the life Jesus brings?
8. How does the position of the stone in Lazarus' story and in Jesus' give hope and strength to our current challenges? Close by praying that you would live in the reality of the resurrection.