



# **WEEK 5**

**JESUS.**

**RESURRECTED LORD.**



# **WEEK 5**

**GROUP DISCUSSION**

# INTRODUCTION:

*To open your group time, read the following introduction aloud.*

Biblical faith is more than a feeling and more than an intellectual assent. Biblical faith is always expressed in personal commitment. The validity of that commitment however is not the sincerity of the one exercising it but the reliability of its object. It is possible to have strong faith in an unreliable object. Biblical faith is true faith because its object is true. Often, people mistakenly think that the validity of faith is based upon sincerity. They reason that faith must be true because people are sincere in what they believe. They fail to realize that faith must have an object and that an unreliable object produces an unreliable faith.

Let me illustrate: Suppose you and I are standing on top of a tall skyscraper. In front of you, connecting the building you are standing on with the next building is a steel reinforced bridge. In front of me is a thin piece of balsa wood extending across from building to building. With great fear you say, "I don't know if this bridge will support me if I walk across." With overflowing confidence, I state, "I absolutely believe this balsa wood will support me if I walk across." We look at each other, we look across the expanse and we both exercise faith as we begin to walk across. What happens? Of course, my weight is too much for the balsa wood so it breaks and I plunge for a long drop with a sudden end! You, however, as fearful as you might be, safely walk across to the next building. Both of us expressed faith in stepping out to walk across to the next building. The difference was not our sincerity or strength of our faith but the reliability of the object we put your faith in. Many people are sincere in what they believe but if what they believe is not true then their faith is misplaced and ultimately unreliable. The real issue for a true faith is its object. Is what we believe actually true?

Christianity is rooted in logical truth statements and verifiable historical facts. The ultimate truth statement and historical fact of

Christianity is the reality of Christ's resurrection. The Bible claims that the resurrection of Jesus not only validates all of Jesus' truth claims, it proves that Jesus is the Son of God, the One who can forgive our sins and give us the gift of eternal life.

## VIDEO SEGMENT

Now, as a group, turn on your TV or Laptop and watch the video for Week 3,  
**JESUS THE BONDAGE BREAKER**

2 ways to watch:

1. Go to [crosslinechurch.com/mml](http://crosslinechurch.com/mml)
2. Go to [vimeo.com/album/5382165](http://vimeo.com/album/5382165)

*After Watching, take a moment to initially respond with your thoughts about the video.*

## READ:

### Luke 24:1-9

At noon, darkness fell across the whole land until three. But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb bringing the spices which they had prepared.<sup>2</sup> And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb,<sup>3</sup> but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus.<sup>4</sup> While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men suddenly stood near them in dazzling clothing;<sup>5</sup> and as the women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, "Why do you seek the living One among the dead?<sup>6</sup> He is not here, but He has risen. Remember how He spoke to you while He was still in Galilee,<sup>7</sup> saying that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men,

and be crucified, and the third day rise again.”<sup>8</sup> And they remembered His words,<sup>9</sup> and returned from the tomb and reported all these things to the eleven and to all the rest.

### **1 Cor. 15:12-17**

But if it is preached that Christ has been raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead?<sup>13</sup> If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised.<sup>14</sup> And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith.<sup>15</sup> More than that, we are then found to be false witnesses about God, for we have testified about God that he raised Christ from the dead. But he did not raise him if in fact the dead are not raised.<sup>16</sup> For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised either.<sup>17</sup> And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins.

### **1 Pet. 1:3-4**

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,<sup>4</sup> and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you.

### **John 11:25-26**

Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies;<sup>26</sup> and whoever lives and believes in me will never die.

# DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

*Answer the following questions together in your group time.*

1. The concept of a “resurrection” is a supernatural event. Since supernatural events don’t fit the empirical scientific approach (something that can be controlled, repeated and observed) how can you evaluate whether a supernatural event, like a resurrection, actually took place?
2. Why do you think the resurrection of Jesus matters? What’s the difference if it really happened or we just believe it happened?
3. If Christ has truly been raised from the dead, what does that mean about who He is and what He can do in a person’s life today?
4. Is Jesus’ resurrection easy or difficult for you to believe in? Why?
5. As we wrap up this 5-week study, what have been some of the biggest discoveries/takeaways for you personally?

*Now take some time to talk about any additional question or thoughts that came from the video, the reading, or the discussion*

## **APPLY POINT**

Jesus resurrection validates every other description we have discussed in this study (Promised Messiah, Compassionate Healer, Bondage Breaker, Crucified Savior)—take some time this week to simply praise God for His great power evidenced in the resurrection!

## **GOING DEEPER**

To have a deeper group or personal study around Jesus as the Resurrected Lord, go to the “Going Deeper” section of week 5 starting on page 139.

# PRAYER REQUESTS



# NOTES



**WEEK 5**

DAILY READINGS

## DAY 21: #PROVEIT

Gigi Johnson

I've always been a rule follower, so long as I can remember. My dad, on the other hand, is more of the "prove it" kind of guy. You know, the one that goes around touching paint next to "wet paint" signs just to see if the signs are lying, and peeking his head into doors that say "Do Not Enter" because maybe, just maybe, you really can enter and nothing bad happens to you. Oh, it used to make me so uneasy as a kid! "Daaaaaaaad," I would say as I pulled him away, nervous someone would "catch him". Sweet guy couldn't help it—he just had to see for himself...

I know Jesus would understand this desire many of us have to experience things for ourselves. In the story of the resurrection in Mark 16: 1-14, we see that after His resurrection, Jesus begins presenting himself to people—first, one or two at a time, later, in groups up to 500 strong. Although those that see him go directly and testify, telling everyone that they've seen the resurrected Jesus, many that hear, including his own disciples, don't quite buy it. Verse 13 reads, "These returned and reported it to the rest, but they did not believe them either."

Personally, I get frustrated when I read this. 'Why don't you get this, guys?! He's literally been telling you this would happen! Or, gang, just look at the entire Old Testament! Don't you desire to believe?' Jesus seemed a little disappointed, too, but out of compassion, He understood their need to see it for themselves far better than I did.

*"Later, Jesus appeared to the Eleven as they were eating; he rebuked them for their lack of faith and their stubborn refusal to believe those who had seen him after he had risen." (Mark 16:14)*

Jesus knew they needed their own, personal encounter with Him. He entered the room in which they were in with the words, "Peace be with you", then generously revealed the wounds in His hands and His side to help them believe.

As we find and follow Jesus in our own lives, He reveals Himself

to us because He knows we need personal encounters and experiences. Even in our process of seeking God and trying to determine if what the Bible says is true, He gives us personal encounters. God is always at work in and around us, and at times He piques our attention with stories and testimonies from others that prepare our hearts for these personal encounters. Trust that Jesus knows exactly when and where you need an encounter to help you believe who He is and how much He loves you. Give your life to Him and experience the love, peace, joy, and eternal life He offers you.

### **PRAYER**

*Dear God, thank you that you love me enough to encounter me when I need it most. I ask that you would give me eyes to see and a heart to believe as You reveal yourself to me. Then fill me with your Holy Spirit so I can experience your love and do your will daily.  
I love you! In your resurrected Son's name I pray, Amen*

## DAY 22: HOLD ON TIGHT!

Jordan Gash

I can distinctly remember that moment when I looked ahead and saw the huge swell of bone-chilling 54 degree water about to hurl itself right on top of me. It was week 2 of Laguna Beach Ocean Lifeguard training and this week was dedicated to navigating and rescuing within the Rocks that are so common to Laguna Beach. As I stood there on my small rock, my stomach was in my throat and I was imagining myself getting plowed and pulled across the rocks next to me like a cheese grater. I immediately took the posture taught me with four points of contact, got low and gripped the rock with all the strength my little teenage frame could muster. The wave pounded on top of me and surged all around me, but much to my surprise, I shook out my hair and wiped my eyes and I was still on that rock. As big and ominous as that wave was, the rock held fast and kept me from being swept away.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ is the steadfast rock we choose to grasp onto with all our strength. Most specifically, we stand upon the belief of His resurrection, declaring that He surely was God and His sacrifice for sins was permanent! Once for all! That the chains of death have been destroyed because He walked out of that tomb. Paul, in some of his final words of his first letter to the Corinthians speaks extensively about the resurrection. He begins with the following statement:

*“Now, brothers, I want to remind you of the gospel I preach to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain.” (1 Cor. 15:1-2)*

There will be countless moments, experiences, and challenges that will shake our faith in Christ and His resurrection, especially in our current culture that grows increasingly more hostile toward our belief. The devil is going to throw all that he's got at us to try and separate us from the Rock. As you move through the day today, hold firmly to the steadfast truth of Christ and His resurrection that can save you. Do not fear for He is with you.

## **PRAYER**

*Jesus, my resurrected Savior, you are a steadfast rock!*

*Help me to know the power of the resurrection even more.*

*Holy Spirit, please fill me with the strength to stand upon the truth when opposition comes today and in the days ahead. I long to be completely captivated by this truth that sets people free. Your will be done in my life. Your Kingdom come in my life.*

*Amen.*

## DAY 23: DEATH COULDN'T HOLD HIM!

Thomas Oh

It's no myth that the foundation on which the house is built on is an important factor to long lasting success. When I was in college, I had the opportunity to learn how to set up a concrete foundation. As the contractor was teaching me how to level the ground, I was able to understand how crucial this process was—and how annoyingly difficult it was. If you were to ask me today if I still remember how to level the concrete, I would confidently answer that question with ease: Not at all. But I do remember one thing: The strength of the building lies in its foundation.

The resurrection of Jesus is a critical foundation of Christian doctrine. If the resurrection is inaccurate, Christianity is misleading and our beliefs will slowly deteriorate. Most religions teach people the fundamental way to live a good life. Christianity is fundamentally faith-driven. It does not rely on faith in a dying man, but in a living God. It is centered around Jesus, not us. God the Father gives us the good news of the gospel not just to convert us, but to strengthen us along the way to eternal life; He gives us what we need in our journey here on earth. It was author Phillip Cary who said, "Christian doctrine matters precisely because Christian faith is personal." Let us also consider the words of the Apostle Paul:

*Now if Christ is preached, that He has been raised from the dead, how do some among you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? But if there is no resurrection of the dead, not even Christ has been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is vain, your faith also is vain... But now Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who are asleep. For since by a man came death, by a man also came the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive. (1 Cor. 15:12-14, 20-22)*

Paul reminds us to **confess with our mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe that God raised him from the dead.** If we do so, we will be saved (Rom. 10:9). As a result of what Jesus had done for

us, we can draw near to God in confidence with full assurance of faith (Heb. 10:19-23). **Confess your sins to God and He will forgive you.** There's nothing you have done that is bigger and/or greater than what Jesus had done on the cross. Your identity is not defined by what you have done. Your identity is not defined by your current feelings. Your identity is in Christ, and in Christ alone.

### **PRAYER**

*Jesus, thank you for what you have done on the cross. You died on the cross so that I can be forgiven. You are my King, my Lord, and my Savior. Help me to live more like you and be with me as I live for you. Amen.*

## DAY 24: HE'S THE REAL DEAL

Sarah Aungst

With social media these days you don't know who people truly are. It is so easy to depict a personality on these platforms that are entirely untrue. It's like we are living in the TV show "Catfish" wondering if the people on social media act or even look like their profiles in real life. It's hard to know if people are the real deal or not!

I imagine this is how many of the people in Jesus' time felt about him! They heard rumors of Him being the Son of God, raising people from death, healing the blind, hanging out with lepers, but could it really be true? Could anyone be that wonderful? That powerful? Could He be the one the world was waiting for? Well Luke, who wrote the book of Acts, wanted to make sure to share with the early church that He was, in fact, the real deal and what proves that is His resurrection:

*Brothers, I may say to you with confidence about the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Being therefore a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would set one of his descendants on his throne, he foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing. For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says, "The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool." Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified. (Acts 2:29-36)*

Jesus' resurrection was the game changer. Without Jesus raising from the dead, we would find no power, strength, or guidance. Jesus' resurrection proved that He was both Lord and Christ; it proved that He was the Son of God full of His power. Thank goodness! We do not need to fear disappointment or the let

down of realizing He was “too good to be true” or “not how He appeared.” Jesus is the real deal and it says in v.36 let everyone know, so let’s do just that!

### **PRAYER**

*God you are so powerful and your plans are amazing! It is so incredible how you showed your mighty works through the death and resurrection of your Son. Thank you for sending a Son whose reputation may never exceed and works never disappoint. Lord, I believe that your Son is exactly who He said He was. Help me to grow in courage and boldness to share who Your Son is with all around me. Amen.*

## DAY 25: ENJOYING THAT WHICH I COULD NOT EARN

Taylor Jones

For one night, I experienced the privileges that come with being one of the highest-ranking officers in the army of the country of El Salvador. This is an odd reality when you consider that I am most definitely not one of the highest-ranking officers in the army of El Salvador. That distinction belongs to my friend Julio's father. So how did I experience all of his privileges? By being his guest. While I lived in El Salvador as a missionary, Julio invited a group of friends and me to join his family for a party. When I arrived at their home, I was surprised to be greeted by a Salvadoran infantryman in uniform. I was even more surprised to see infantrymen setting up a karaoke station, serving as referees for a pick-up soccer game, cooking food on the grill, and waiting on all of the guests. Because Julio's father considered me a friend and because I received his invitation to be his guest that evening, I was extended the privileges that he enjoys as a man of power.

Scripture tells us that because of our sin we cannot do or get for ourselves what we most need—to be right with God and to have unshakeable, eternal hope. And yet, this is the beauty of the good news of Jesus: that not only has Jesus conquered sin and death as the resurrected Lord, but that He also extends His victory to us if we receive it.

*...because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. (Romans 10:9-10)*

To confess that Jesus is Lord and to believe that God raised Him from the dead is to receive His invitation to be with Him and to follow Him as Lord. When we do this, God extends to us Jesus' right standing and Jesus' resurrection. This is the hope that we've always longed for, even if we've not always known it—the hope that because Jesus is sinless, we too can be counted as sinless; the hope that because Jesus has defeated the power of

sin, we too can have victory over the power of sin; the hope that because Jesus rose from death to eternal life, we too can have the hope of eternal life. In whatever struggles, disappointments, or heartaches you may be going through today, savor the fact that Jesus has done for you what you could never do for yourself. Savor the fact that, in Him, His resurrection is your resurrection.

### **PRAYER**

*Lord, thank you that You have done for me what I could not do for myself. Thank you for defeating sin and death and for freely offering me Your victory. Please help me to live out Your kind of life in my life today. Help me care about the things You care about and love how You love. In Christ's victorious name, Amen.*



**WEEK 5**

GOING DEEPER

# FOR DEEPER GROUP OR PERSONAL STUDY, GO THROUGH PASTOR JP'S STUDY OUTLINE:

## *Jesus the Resurrected Lord*

The question of the resurrection is an historical one that can be verified or rejected using the methods of historical evaluation.

What do the facts support? The evidence for Christ's death and resurrection is found in the eye witness accounts of each of the four Gospels and the life changing effect of the resurrection is described in the Book of Acts and the New Testament letters. These sources have been critically analyzed and determined to be accurate to the original text and deemed historically reliable (See my book, *Christianity: Blind Leap or Intelligent Commitment*; FF Bruce, *The New Testament Documents are they Reliable*; Josh McDowell, *Evidence the Demands a Verdict*). The objective seeker should look at the facts and make an intelligent decision.

According to the Bible, the critical facts are these:

- The Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament) predict the death and resurrection of the Messiah (see Ps. 16; Isa. 53)
- Jesus predicted, on numerous occasions, his own death and resurrection (see Matt. 16:21)
- Jesus was betrayed by Judas; delivered to the chief priests for questioning; and interrogated, beaten and scourged by Pilate—as you may have seen in the movie *The Passion of the Christ* (see Matt. 26:57-27:31)
- The crowds cried for Jesus to be executed (see John 19:1-6)
- Jesus, according to Roman law, was nailed to a cross for crucifixion. The victim, weakened by the torture and loss of blood, was unable to lift his body into a position to take a breath and therefore died of suffocation (see Mark 15:20-41)
- A Roman executioner certified that Jesus was dead and

put a spear through His chest cavity. Out of the wound flowed blood and water, indicating massive internal bleeding (see John 19:31-37)

- Jesus was anointed for burial and encased in more than 75 pounds of mummy-like wrappings (see John 19:38-42)
- The body of Jesus was placed in a tomb, and a huge stone was rolled into place to block the entrance (see Mark 15:46)
- The tomb was sealed with a Roman seal, and a guard of Roman soldiers was placed in front of it (see Matt. 27:62-66)
- Three days later, the tomb was empty, and the stone had been moved a great distance away (see Mark 16:1-8).
- Jesus appeared on many occasions, to many audiences, proving that He was alive. On one occasion, He appeared to more than 500 eyewitnesses simultaneously (see 1 Cor. 15:3-11)
- Jesus ascended bodily into heaven in the sight of the apostles (see Acts 1:9-11)
- The resurrected Jesus appeared to Saul of Tarsus, a Jewish Pharisee. Saul became a devout Christ-follower and an apostle, and his name was changed to Paul (see Acts 9)
- Bearing witness to Christ's resurrection transformed the lives of 12 fearful men, turning them into apostolic world-changers (see Acts 1-12)
- The resurrection of Jesus Christ is the foundation for the gospel that offers forgiveness of sins; new life and the hope of heaven (see 1 Cor. 15)

Either Jesus rose from the dead or He didn't. If He didn't, then there must be some other plausible explanation for the resurrection account. What are the possibilities? Here are four options that skeptics and others have presented:

1. ***Jesus didn't really die.*** Rather than dying on the cross, Jesus only passed out. In the dampness of the tomb, Jesus was revived and then appeared to the disciples, who mistakenly thought He was raised from the dead. This theory breaks down on several facts. First of all, crucifixions killed people! The victim literally

suffocated to death. In Jesus' case, He was nailed to the cross, not merely tied down by ropes. A Roman executioner pierced His side with a sword, certifying His death. He was wrapped with about 75 pounds of ceremonial spices and linen wrappings. He was placed in a tomb with a huge stone rolled across the entrance. A Roman guard was tasked with standing watch outside the tomb. Then, on multiple occasions over a 40-day period, He appeared to the disciples as the Lord of Life. Before a collective audience, He ascended out of their sight and into heaven. These facts, recorded by multiple eyewitnesses, refute the claim that Jesus didn't die.

2. ***It wasn't Jesus on the cross.*** A look-a-like took Jesus' place. The "resurrection" appearances were made by a perfectly healthy Jesus, who had never experienced the crucifixion and therefore didn't need to be raised from the dead. Again, this view has serious flaws. The foremost is that it would make Jesus a perpetrator of a lie. He would be some mastermind of a great religious deception. The apostles would also be liars. The Roman soldiers who experienced the miracle of the resurrection would be liars as well. This view disregards the evidence and accuracy of eyewitness testimony.
3. ***The disciples stole the body, made up the story of the resurrection, and then preached it to others.*** This view would have us believe that the disciples formed a huge religious plot. They somehow physically manhandled the Roman guard and then kept their secret to their deaths—martyrs' deaths. That's right—the disciples were killed for their faith. It's true that people have died for a lie, but it was a lie they believed was true. This theory asserts that the disciples propagated a lie and that they never denounced their lie, not even to save their own lives. Is it likely that not one person but many people, when faced with the option of freedom for telling the truth or torture and death for holding onto a lie, would continue to lie? The theory that the resurrection was a deceptive plot also breaks down when the case of

the apostle Paul is considered. Paul claimed to have an encounter with the resurrected Christ that was completely separate from the experiences of the other apostles. Based on this encounter, the entire direction of his life changed. If the disciples stole the body, then the conversion of the apostle Paul must be explained away.

4. ***The resurrection accounts were hallucinations.*** The apostles so wanted Jesus to be raised from the dead that they convinced themselves it had actually happened. This view does not fit the evidence: the empty tomb, the testimony of the Roman guard, and the fact that multiple people had the same “hallucination” on different occasions. In particular, the theory is hard-pressed to explain 500 people claiming to see the resurrected Jesus Christ. Again, the changed life of the apostle Paul discredits this interpretation.

Is there a view of the resurrection that fits all the facts? The obvious answer is yes. It is the view recorded by eyewitness testimony—the view that Jesus Christ bodily rose from the dead. This view is the very heart of the gospel; it is the view that we have already seen in 1 Corinthians 15. Let’s revisit the opening of that passage:

Now, brothers, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain.

For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Peter, and then to the Twelve. After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles, and last of all he appeared to me also (**1 Corinthians 15:1-8**).

The resurrection of Jesus Christ is an historical fact. It is backed up by prophetic prediction, eye witness testimony, physical evidence and personal experience. It is the only conclusion that fits the evidence. It is the resurrection of Jesus that validates His claim to be God and His assertion to be able to forgive our sins and give us eternal life. Consider the follow Scriptures:

***Romans 1:2-4***

...the gospel that God promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures <sup>3</sup>regarding his Son, who as to his human nature was a descendant of David, <sup>4</sup>and who through the Spirit of holiness was declared with power to be the Son of God by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord.

***John 11:25-26***

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; <sup>26</sup>and whoever lives and believes in me will never die.

***Romans 10:9***

That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

According to God's Word, because Jesus lived, died and rose again, we can be saved. When we choose to believe in Him and confess Him as our Lord, the Bible promises that our sins are forgiven and we receive the gift of eternal life. The Christian faith is an intelligent faith. It is believing the facts about Christ's death and resurrection and acting upon those facts by turning to Jesus Christ in repentance and faith. The hope of the gospel is that Jesus Christ is alive and that He gives eternal life to all who believe in Him.

## ***Look at it***

Read the following Scriptures:

***Luke 24:1-12***

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb bringing the spices which they had prepared.

<sup>2</sup> And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb,  
<sup>3</sup> but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus.<sup>4</sup> While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men suddenly stood near them in dazzling clothing;<sup>5</sup> and as the women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, "Why do you seek the living One among the dead?"<sup>6</sup> He is not here, but He has risen. Remember how He spoke to you while He was still in Galilee,<sup>7</sup> saying that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again."<sup>8</sup> And they remembered His words,<sup>9</sup> and returned from the tomb and reported all these things to the eleven and to all the rest.<sup>10</sup> Now they were Mary Magdalene and Joanna and Mary the mother of James; also the other women with them were telling these things to the apostles.<sup>11</sup> But these words appeared to them as nonsense, and they would not believe them.<sup>12</sup> But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he \*saw the linen wrappings only; and he went away to his home, marveling at what had happened.

### **John 20:11-29**

But Mary was standing outside the tomb weeping; and so, as she wept, she stooped and looked into the tomb;<sup>12</sup> and she \*saw two angels in white sitting, one at the head and one at the feet, where the body of Jesus had been lying.<sup>13</sup> And they \*said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She \*said to them, "Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid Him."<sup>14</sup> When she had said this, she turned around and \*saw Jesus standing there, and did not know that it was Jesus.<sup>15</sup> Jesus \*said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" Supposing Him to be the gardener, she \*said to Him, "Sir, if you have carried Him away, tell me where you have laid Him, and I will take Him away."<sup>16</sup> Jesus \*said to her, "Mary!" She turned and \*said to Him in Hebrew, "Rabboni!" (which means, Teacher).<sup>17</sup> Jesus \*said to her, "Stop clinging to Me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to My brethren and say to them, 'I ascend to My Father and your Father, and My God and your God.'"<sup>18</sup> Mary Magdalene \*came, announcing to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord," and that He had said these things to her.<sup>19</sup> So when it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and when the doors were shut where

the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and \*said to them, "Peace be with you."<sup>20</sup> And when He had said this, He showed them both His hands and His side. The disciples then rejoiced when they saw the Lord.<sup>21</sup> So Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you; as the Father has sent Me, I also send you."<sup>22</sup> And when He had said this, He breathed on them and \*said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit.<sup>23</sup> If you forgive the sins of any, their sins have been forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they have been retained."

<sup>24</sup> But Thomas, one of the twelve, called Didymus, was not with them when Jesus came.<sup>25</sup> So the other disciples were saying to him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the imprint of the nails, and put my finger into the place of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe."

<sup>26</sup> After eight days His disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus \*came, the doors having been shut, and stood in their midst and said, "Peace be with you."

<sup>27</sup> Then He \*said to Thomas, "Reach here with your finger, and see My hands; and reach here your hand and put it into My side; and do not be unbelieving, but believing."

<sup>28</sup> Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!"

<sup>29</sup> Jesus \*said to him, "Because you have seen Me, have you believed? Blessed are they who did not see, and yet believed."

### **Acts 1:1-11**

The first account I composed, Theophilus, about all that Jesus began to do and teach,<sup>2</sup> until the day when He was taken up to heaven, after He had by the Holy Spirit given orders to the apostles whom He had chosen.<sup>3</sup> To these He also presented Himself alive after His suffering, by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over a period of forty days and speaking of the things concerning the kingdom of God.<sup>4</sup> Gathering them together, He commanded them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for what the Father had promised, "Which," He said, "you heard of from Me;<sup>5</sup> for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

<sup>6</sup> So when they had come together, they were asking Him, saying, "Lord, is it at this time You are restoring the kingdom to Israel?" <sup>7</sup> He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or epochs which the Father has fixed by His own authority; <sup>8</sup> but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."

<sup>9</sup> And after He had said these things, He was lifted up while they were looking on, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. <sup>10</sup> And as they were gazing intently into the sky while He was going, behold, two men in white clothing stood beside them. <sup>11</sup> They also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into the sky? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in just the same way as you have watched Him go into heaven."

### **1 Corinthians 15:1-9**

Let me now remind you, dear brothers and sisters, of the Good News I preached to you before. You welcomed it then, and you still stand firm in it. <sup>2</sup> It is this Good News that saves you if you continue to believe the message I told you—unless, of course, you believed something that was never true in the first place.

<sup>3</sup> I passed on to you what was most important and what had also been passed on to me. Christ died for our sins, just as the Scriptures said. <sup>4</sup> He was buried, and he was raised from the dead on the third day, just as the Scriptures said. <sup>5</sup> He was seen by Peter and then by the Twelve. <sup>6</sup> After that, he was seen by more than 500 of his followers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. <sup>7</sup> Then he was seen by James and later by all the apostles. <sup>8</sup> Last of all, as though I had been born at the wrong time, I also saw him. <sup>9</sup> For I am the least of all the apostles. In fact, I'm not even worthy to be called an apostle after the way I persecuted God's church.



<sup>13</sup>About noon, Your Majesty, as I was on the road, a light from heaven brighter than the sun shone down on me and my companions. <sup>14</sup>We all fell down, and I heard a voice saying to me in Aramaic, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me? It is useless for you to fight against my will.'

<sup>15</sup> "Who are you, lord?' I asked.

"And the Lord replied, 'I am Jesus, the one you are persecuting. <sup>16</sup> Now get to your feet! For I have appeared to you to appoint you as my servant and witness. Tell people that you have seen me, and tell them what I will show you in the future. <sup>17</sup> And I will rescue you from both your own people and the Gentiles. Yes, I am sending you to the Gentiles <sup>18</sup> to open their eyes, so they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God. Then they will receive forgiveness for their sins and be given a place among God's people, who are set apart by faith in me.'

<sup>19</sup> "And so, King Agrippa, I obeyed that vision from heaven. <sup>20</sup> I preached first to those in Damascus, then in Jerusalem and throughout all Judea, and also to the Gentiles, that all must repent of their sins and turn to God—and prove they have changed by the good things they do.

3. What convinced the Apostle Paul that Jesus was the Resurrected Lord?

## ***Understand it***

### ***1 Corinthians 15:12-22***

But if it is preached that Christ has been raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? <sup>13</sup> If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. <sup>14</sup> And if Christ has not been



### **Romans 1:2-4**

...the gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures <sup>3</sup> regarding his Son, who as to his earthly life was a descendant of David, <sup>4</sup> and who through the Spirit of holiness was appointed <sup>the</sup> Son of God in power by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **1 Peter 1:3-4**

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, <sup>4</sup> and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you.

### **Romans 4:22-25**

This is why "it was credited to him as righteousness." <sup>23</sup> The words "it was credited to him" were written not for him alone, <sup>24</sup> but also for us, to whom God will credit righteousness—for us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead. <sup>25</sup> He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification.

### **Romans 10:9-10**

If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup> For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.

### **Romans 8:10-11**

But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life because of righteousness. <sup>11</sup> And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you.