

life groups

NorthStar Church

Easter: Crossroads

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1 Corinthians, the Gospels

Main Idea

Easter: Crossroads

This is the day we celebrate the single most important event in the history of the world: the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. There are many skeptics to the gospel accounts. Scripture offsets the arguments against the reality of the resurrection. So does the testimonies of those around your LifeGroup circle.

Introduction

Is Easter one of your favorite holidays? What are some Easter memories that you have? What are some Easter traditions that you have?

Understanding

Scott told us of the main theories that some people have against the resurrection. Let's discuss them one by one.

1. The swoon theory: for each passage below, discuss the proof against this theory
 - a. Someone read Matthew 27: 62-64
 - b. Someone read Mark 15:39, 42-45
 - c. Someone read John 19:31-34
 - d. Someone read John 19:38-42
2. The disciples stole the body. Discuss the case against this theory based on what Scott told us and what you've read in the Bible regarding the Roman guard and the martyr deaths of the disciples.
3. The Jews stole the body. What was the problem with this theory??
4. The mass hallucination theory. Read 1 Corinthians 15:3-8. Visions tend to be very personal events. Two people rarely have visions that are even remotely similar. Jesus appeared to many different people at different times during the 40 days after His resurrection. What other proof is there against this theory?

Have you heard any other theories against the resurrection?

Application

It's an amazing thing that God sent His own son into the world born of the Virgin Mary. It is amazing that Jesus lived a perfect sinless life on Earth. It is amazing the Jesus dies on the cross in our place to pay the debt of our sinful lives. But none of this would have any meaning, value, or purpose apart from His resurrection of the dead. It is the resurrection that changes everything. It is what sets Him apart from any other religious leader or "god".

Who do you know that needs the help of the resurrection today?

Who do you know that you need to share the Easter story with?

Begin to come up with a game plan to build relationship and start talking to this person about the miracle of the resurrection.

Pray

Pray for those you know who need hope. Who do you know that needs help? Pray for our city in light of the Resurrection celebration that has just taken place.