

Easter Sunday ~ Sunday, April 1, 2018

“Living the Resurrection”

John 20:1-18

The events of that first Easter—the resurrection of Jesus—form the _____ of our faith. We celebrate that on the third day, God announced His great _____ and up from the grave Jesus rose, triumphant over darkness, _____, and _____!

Easter is all about coming _____.

“Everybody comes alive in Christ.” (1 Corinthians 15:22)

Will the resurrection of Jesus make a difference in your life this year or will it be business as usual?

How do we allow this story that we know so well to be more than just a story in our lives?

What is the significance of the resurrection for our lives today?

The resurrection of Jesus celebrates more than just a one-time event that occurred 2000 years ago—Easter is God’s _____ to us—an invitation to a _____ life.

As a follower of Jesus, am I living the resurrection life? Am I living my life in such a way that acknowledges not only that Jesus is alive, but that He is Lord over all or Am I just going through the motions of living—wrapped up in the culture around me?

“Jesus included everyone in his death so everyone could be included in his life—a far better life than people lived on their own.” (2 Corinthians 5:15)

We know a lot about the _____ life in our culture.

But what if there’s something _____? What if beyond the good life there’s an even _____ life?

The reality is, we often settle for _____ because we don’t know there’s anything _____. The problem with the good life is that it can keep us from _____ something better. The good life fools us into thinking we’re _____, yet under the surface we feel anything but happiness.

Underneath the good life, many people are _____ and _____; which leads to _____.

Have you settled for second best—have you settled for the good life?

Have you settled for far less than God has for you?

“If we were put on friendly terms with God by the sacrificial death of His Son, just think how our lives will expand and deepen by means of His resurrected life.” (Romans 5:10)

The resurrection of Jesus is supposed to have an _____ on our lives here and now—the same _____ that raised Jesus from the dead lives in us.

Easter is all about God’s ability to make all things _____.

“The great Easter truth is no that we are to live newly after death, but that we are to be new here and now by the power of the Holy Spirit.” (Phillips Brooks)

“The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.” (John 10:10)

Abundant = Perissos =

Jesus didn’t die on the cross and rise again so that we could live the _____ life. Jesus died and was raised again so that we could live an _____ life. The life that we were _____ to live from the beginning—the life He wants to _____ us.

JESUS & THE ABUNDANT LIFE

#1. The abundant life is a life filled with _____.

Despite what some people think, the greatest tragedy in life isn’t _____ . It is going through life without any real _____ or _____ .

The problem is, a lot of people confuse a _____ life with a meaningful life.

What we all need is something that gives us constant meaning, _____ meaning.

“Christ gives meaning to your life.” (Colossians 3:4)

“Because Jesus was raised from the dead we’ve been given a brand new life. We have everything to live for including a future in heaven and that future starts now.” (1 Peter 1:3)

3 THINGS ABOUT THE ABUNDANT LIFE

- The abundant life is directly _____ to the Easter event.
- The abundant life isn't an _____, but a _____ deal.
- The abundant life is about living for _____, not _____.

“He died so we could no longer for ourselves but for him who died for us and was raised to life for our sake.” (2 Corinthians 5:15)

Who are you living for? Where do you find meaning for your life?

#2. The abundant life is a life _____ by _____.
“We are free to live a new life in the freedom of God.” (Romans 7:6)

Because of Jesus' death and resurrection we no longer have to be _____ to sin and death; nor to the things of this world. Because of Jesus' death and resurrection, we can live a new life of _____. And this new life comes by _____.

“For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God.” (Ephesians 2:8)

Grace =

Grace is the road to real _____.

THE RESURRECTION SETS US FREE FROM. . .

- **The resurrection sets us free from _____**
“God says he will accept us and acquit us if we trust Jesus Christ to take away our sins. We can all be saved in this same way by coming to Jesus Christ, no matter who we are or what we've been like.” (Romans 3:22)
- **The resurrection sets us free from _____**
“...we are now members of God's own family. And God has reserved for his children the priceless gift of eternal life. It is kept in heaven for you and God will make sure that you get there safely to receive it because you are trusting in him.” (1 Peter 1:3-5)
- **The resurrection sets us free from _____ and _____**
“He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.” (Psalm 147:3)

- **The resurrection sets us free from _____, _____, and _____**

“When I was burdened with worries, you comforted me and made me feel secure.” (Psalm 94:19)

- **The resurrection sets us free to _____**
“For I know the plans I have for you,” says the Lord. “They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.” (Jeremiah 29:11)

It's not about do's or don't's—it's about _____!
It's not about _____—it's all about _____.

“He gave his life to purchase freedom for everyone.” (1 Timothy 2:6)

Have you accepted this gift? Are you living a life of freedom?

#3. The abundant life is a life filled with _____.
God never intended for us to through life in our own _____, but rather to be plugged into His _____.

“Those who feel tired and worn out will find new life and energy.” (Jer 31:25)

“Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, says the Lord of hosts.” (Zech 4:6)

“Once the Spirit lives within you, he will bring to your whole being a new strength and vitality.” (Romans 8:11)

We can go through our days living the good life in our _____ physical, emotional, and spiritual strength; or we can live the abundant life, plugged into God's _____. The choice is ours.

**Whose strength are you drawing on in your everyday life:
your own or God's?**

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The resurrection of Jesus changes _____!

“Christianity is, in its very essence, a resurrection religion. The concept of resurrection lies at its heart. If you remove it, Christianity is destroyed.” (John Stott)

†

“I have come to give you life—and life abundantly.” (John 10:10)

**Do you want to come alive this Easter?
Which will you choose—the good life or the abundant life?**