

Discussion Guide

The Savior Enigma: “Resurrection (Easter) Sunday”

April 9, 2023

Big Idea



The resurrection is the most significant piece of the Savior Enigma because it shows Jesus' authority of sin and death.



Icebreaker

How was your resurrection (Easter) Sunday, or celebration of it? What did you do?



Discussion Questions

1. Read Luke 24:1-12 and John 20:1-2. The sermon started out by admitting that no one expected the resurrection of Jesus. What are some evidences of that from the verses just read? Why do you think nobody, even Jesus' closest followers, didn't expect this?
2. Did you ever struggle with believing that Jesus really rose from the dead? Can you understand how people may struggle with believing this? What are some good ways to handle other people's struggle with believing this that could build a bridge versus kill any opportunity for them to come to believe it?
3. What from history, in regard to Rome, was shared in the sermon that indicates “something happened”; even to the point that if one goes to Rome today they would still see evidence of? Can you briefly share the testimony of someone you know whom you never thought would come to faith in Christ, however, something amazing happened, drawing them to him?
4. Re-read Luke 24:3-8. Focusing on what the angels (two men in clothes that gleamed like lightening) reminded the women of, what are some reminders you need in your faith journey and where or how do you receive such reminders?
5. In the sermon there were three specific interesting factors shared as reasons to believe in the resurrection of Jesus. One was that some of the writers of the Gospels were willing to basically embarrass themselves by admitting they did not initially believe that he rose from the grave. Second is the fact that women are documented as the initial & key witnesses of the tomb being empty (a resurrection). This is shocking in a culture where women would have not been considered credible witnesses. This shows the truthfulness, if you will, of the Gospel writing. The writers would have been tempted to change the story to make it be men as the initial witnesses in order to give the story more credibility, but they didn't. Third, Jesus' followers, after scattering and hiding upon his arrest and punishments, come back together and proceeded to proclaim the good news that he was alive. And they did so, and continued to do so, despite facing and enduring persecution and even death, themselves, for declaring it. Do one of these reasons resonate more with you and if so why? Or is there another factor of the story/account that leads you to place credibility in it?



Concluding Question

What does the resurrection of Jesus Christ have to do with you? Or how does it affect you?



Application

1. What do you think the Holy Spirit may be saying to you through this sermon and our discussion?
2. What is something God wants you to do now?
3. Is there a way we can help each other apply what God is showing us?



Prayer

Pray for those across the world that accepted Jesus Christ on Easter Sunday!