



## SERMON BASED STUDY GUIDE

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Hope and Transformation Through the Resurrection of Christ

### OPENING & PRAYER:

Easter is a profound celebration that marks the pivotal moment in history when Jesus Christ rose from the dead, affirming His identity and mission. Easter is not about eggs or bunnies; it is about the resurrection of Jesus, which is the cornerstone of our faith. Without the resurrection, our faith would be empty, and our preaching would be in vain. The resurrection validates Jesus' claims, proving that He is the Son of God who has power over life and death. It assures us of life after death and gives hope to all who believe in Him.

*"Father, as we study temptations and what Jesus went through, show us where we may fall short so we may grow in those area, We know You fill that gap and we thank You for it. Be expose those that work against us and speak to us as we begin to identify and fight with Your Word. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen."*

## SCRIPTURE:

*For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures, 1 Corinthians 15:3-4*

*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? 13 But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ is not risen. 14 And if Christ is not risen, then our preaching is empty and your faith is also empty. 1 Corinthians 15:12-14*

*for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.” Luke 19:8-10*

*“But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet. 23 And bring the fatted calf here and kill it, and let us eat and be merry; 24 for this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ And they began to be merry. Luke 15:22*

*For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. John 3:16-17*

*For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. 2 Corinthians 5:21*

*Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. 2 Corinthians 5:17*

*Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. Romans 6:4*

*Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 29 Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30 For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.” Matthew 11:28-30*

## GO DEEPER:

The resurrection is a testament to God's love for humanity. Jesus' mission was to seek and save the lost, as illustrated in the parables of the lost sheep, the lost coin, and the lost son. These parables highlight the value God places on each individual and His relentless pursuit to bring us back into His fold. The lost son, in particular, represents humanity's estrangement from God and the Father's unwavering love and desire for reconciliation.

Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection are central to our salvation. His death was our death; He took

upon Himself the sins of the world. His burial signifies the end of our old life, and His resurrection offers us a new life filled with hope and purpose. Christianity is unique in that it offers a complete transformation, taking our old, sinful life and replacing it with a new, redeemed life in Christ.

The symbol of our faith is not scales of justice but the cross, which signifies grace and redemption. We are not saved by our works but by faith in Jesus Christ. God loves us unconditionally, and our rebellion is what separates us from His love. Jesus made a way for us to return to the Father, offering rest for our souls and a relationship that brings true peace and fulfillment.

## KEY TAKEAWAYS:

1. **The Resurrection's Significance:** The resurrection of Jesus is the foundation of our faith. Without it, our beliefs would be empty, but because He rose, we have hope and assurance of eternal life. This event validates Jesus' identity and His claims, proving that He is indeed the Son of God. [02:03]
2. **God's Relentless Love:** The parables of the lost sheep, coin, and son illustrate God's relentless pursuit of us. Each story shows the increasing value God places on us, culminating in the loving Father who welcomes the lost son back with open arms. This is a powerful reminder of God's unconditional love and desire for reconciliation. [16:01]
3. **Transformation Through Christ:** Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection offer us a complete transformation. Our old life is buried, and we are given a new life filled with hope and purpose. Christianity uniquely offers this profound change, taking our brokenness and replacing it with redemption and new beginnings. [27:41]
4. **The Cross Over Scales:** Our faith is symbolized by the cross, not scales of justice. We are not saved by our good works but by grace through faith in Jesus Christ. This underscores the unconditional love of God, who values us beyond our actions and desires a relationship with us. [29:06]
5. **Invitation to Rest and Relationship:** Jesus invites us to come to Him for rest and a relationship with the Father. Our souls find peace when we accept this invitation, as it aligns us with God's purpose and love. The Holy Spirit draws us into this relationship, offering a life of true fulfillment and joy. [30:43]

## LEARNING AND GROWING:

1. How do the parables of the lost sheep, coin, and son in Luke 15 reflect God's relentless pursuit of humanity? What does this say about the value God places on individuals? [16:01]
  2. Consider a time when you felt lost or distant from God. How did you experience His pursuit and love during that period? [16:01]
  3. How can you shift your focus from trying to earn God's love through good works to embracing the grace offered through the cross? What practical steps can you take to deepen your relationship with God? [29:06]
  4. Reflect on the parable of the lost son. Is there someone in your life who needs to experience the Father's love and forgiveness? How can you be a conduit of that love to them? [20:05]
- 5The sermon emphasizes the importance of a personal relationship with God. What steps can you take this week to strengthen your prayer life and connection with Him? [32:06]

## CLOSING PRAYER:

*"Father, we thank You for Your Word and guidance. We know our Identity is wrapped in You, but the devil is a liar. Shine light on the darkness that tries to tempt us away from You. As we continue to study Your Word throughout this week, let us be that light to those around us and they too will come to grow closer to You as they fight their battles. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen."*