



“Why are you looking among the dead for someone who is alive? He isn't here! He is **risen** from the dead!” *Luke 24:5-6*

Without the resurrection, faith is useless.

And if Christ has not been raised, then your faith is **useless**...
1 Corinthians 15:17

Without the resurrection, we have no forgiveness.

And if Christ has not been raised, then your faith is useless and you are **still guilty** of your sins. *1 Corinthians 15:17*

God made him who had **no sin** to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. *2 Corinthians 5:21*

The resurrection makes it possible to experience a completely different quality of life right now.

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it **abundantly**. *John 10:10*

“When we open ourselves to the writing of the new testament, the overwhelming impression that comes upon us is that we are looking into another world and another life.” Dallas Willard

The abundant life is the quenching of your soul's thirst.

John 4:7, 10, 13-18

Then Jesus declared, “I, the one speaking to you- I am he.” *John 4:26*

This Living Water is the Holy Spirit.

“Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink. Whoever **believes** in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them.” By this he meant the **Spirit**, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. *John 7:37-39*

1. We will drink it ourselves.

2. We will share it with others.

Then, leaving her water jar, the woman went back to the town and said to the people, “Come see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Messiah?” *John 4:28-29*

Many of the Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony, “He told me everything I ever did.”
John 4:39

For Group Discussion

Answer these questions prior to your Small Group meeting this week.

Introduction

Along with celebrating 40 years of ministry at Emmanuel Church, we also celebrated Jesus' resurrection during our Easter weekend services. We discovered that without the resurrection, faith is useless and we have no forgiveness. We also learned that Jesus came to bring us much more than eternal life. The resurrection gives Christ-followers the opportunity to experience a completely different quality of life right now.

Discussion Questions

1. Everyone is looking for satisfaction, but few people are truly satisfied, including those who call themselves Christian. Why do you think it is so difficult for people to find satisfaction?

Read John 10:10. How would you describe the abundant (rich and satisfying) life Jesus came to bring?

2. The Bible describes abundant life in many ways. How do each of the following passages speak to you about the kind of life Jesus wants for every believer? Read Galatians 5:22-23, Philippians 4:6-8, Luke 6:38, Matthew 11:28-30, and Matthew 6:31-34.

From these passages, identify aspects of the abundant life in which you are doing well, and areas in which you could be doing far better.

3. If we are ever going to be satisfied and live the abundant life, we must be engaged with and listening to the Holy Spirit. Read John 7:37-39. Share the spiritual disciplines you engage in that allow you to continually “drink from the living water?”

In what ways does your connection to the Holy Spirit through these disciplines allow you to live a more abundant life? What could you be doing that will help you consistently find your satisfaction in nothing but your relationship with Jesus?

4. Just like the woman at the well, we have an obligation to share the living water with others. Read John 4:39-42. How are people drawn to Jesus by of the quality of your life? Could you do anything to be more intentional in drawing others to Christ?

What steps will you take this week to drink from the living water and share it with others?

OUTREACH: GROUPS IN ACTION

As a group, discuss the skills/passions you each have and how you could each use these skills to give back to someone in need. God gives each of us passions and talents – don't let them go to waste! We would love to help you get connected to one of our volunteer teams or to people in need. For more serving opportunities, email Kerry Carmichael at kcarmichael@eclife.org.

CareNet Pregnancy Center needs someone to help mow their property each week. Would you be willing to sign-up to do that one time each month? This will help them allocate their money and resources more to the clients that need their services. Email Kerry if you are able to help at kcarmichael@eclife.org.

Action Step

Fill in the blanks below for this upcoming week.

My action steps are _____

I'm accountable for _____, and their action steps are _____

My memory verse is _____

This coming week, I'm praying for: _____