

April 12 / Easter Sunday

Surprise the World: The Surprise!

Read [Matthew 28:1-10](#)



13 / Mon – What difference does it make? | Read [Matthew 28:1-10](#)

Yesterday Christians celebrated the most important day in history, the day Jesus defeated death. Even those who are not active church members will often attend on Easter Sunday each year. It's a day that brings joy and inspires hope. And then Monday comes and it is back to the routine. How is your life different this week because of the events of that first Good Friday and Easter morning?

14 / Tue – Eyewitnesses | Read [1 Corinthians 15:1-9](#)

After he was physically raised from the dead, Jesus did not go back to heaven right away but for 40 days He stayed on earth, seeing the disciples and many of his followers, as recorded in the verses above. Imagine the conversations they had. Imagine how intently they listened to what Jesus said. If you had the opportunity to talk with Jesus face-to-face, what would you say to him, what would you ask? You can ask those questions right now. He is listening.

15 / Wed – Why is it important? | Read [2 Corinthians 15:12-19](#)

There are people who believe Jesus was a just good person and a great teacher who lived 2000 years ago but do not believe he was raised from the dead. If this is true, what difference does it make to you? Read Paul's words in the verses above. What do his words about Jesus' resurrection mean to you? Where kind of person would you be if Jesus had *not* been raised from the dead?

16 / Thu – Fear neutralized | Read [2 Corinthians 15:20-22](#)

Fear of death is the greatest most humans will face. It is natural because it's unknown. And as the world deals with an unexpected pandemic, death seems even more imminent. Read Paul's most emphatic affirmation that Jesus *did* rise from the dead and what that means for those who believe in Him. There is great hope in realizing that Jesus went through that door ahead of us and came back. Whether your time is soon or years away, Jesus' promise in John 14:3 is for you. How does this promise give you hope? Who will you share that hope with today?

17 / Fri – Hope for life | Read [1 Peter 1:3-9](#)

Without hope, life doesn't seem worth living. Even with enough food, water and other necessities, you can die from the inside out, unless you have solid hope. Have you experienced times in your life when you lost hope, maybe your dreams were crushed, maybe things happened that were out of your control? What revived you? Peter's words remind you of the one thing God has given you that will not change...a *living* hope, because of Jesus' resurrection, hope to help you persevere.

18 / Sat – Looking back | Read [2 Peter 1:3-4](#)

Take time today to look back over your week and make some observations. What does the reality of Jesus' resurrection mean for you?

What hope do you stand on when everything around you seems shaky?

What promises did you find to help you move forward with peace into an unknown future?