



Community Group Lesson Plan • Abbotsford

Title of Sermon: Risen!

Passage: Matthew 28:1-15 NIV

The Resurrection is...

1. True

- a. Are you troubled by the differences in the resurrection accounts in the 4 Gospels? Why or why not?
- b. If several eyewitnesses describe an event differently does this give evidence that they didn't see the event? Or does it give evidence that they did? Why or why not?
- c. Does it surprise you that women were the first to be given the news of the resurrection? Why do you think God chose to do it this way?
- d. What evidences for the resurrection make you believe that it is historical fact? How would you convince a skeptic that it is historical?

2. Powerful

- a. What precautions did the Romans take to prevent Jesus' body from leaving the tomb? Did it work? Why or why not?
- b. Read 1 Corinthians 15:55. Why is it that Christians, like Paul, can taunt death and the grave like this?
- c. What effect should the resurrection have on your boldness in facing the challenges before you?

3. Physical

- a. What is the Christian hope? (Hint: Read Romans 8:23-24.)
- b. Do you believe that you will have a physical body in heaven? Did Jesus have a physical body after he arose from the grave? In what way does this show what kind of body we will have at the resurrection?

4. Troubling

- a. Read Matthew 28:11-15.
- b. Why do you think that the religious leaders and guards rejected the resurrection even though they knew it to be true? Why do people today reject the resurrection?
- c. If the resurrection is true, and Jesus is the reigning king above all, does this threaten our autonomy? How?

Wrap Up and Prayer

From your discussion, what resonated with you individually or as a group? Was there anything not discussed that stuck out to you from the sermon? Pray for each other along with other requests.

Benediction -

"He is risen! He is risen indeed!"