

April 20 – 26

Connect with God | When Death Comes, Hope Rises!

Icebreaker: What's something that becomes more amazing to you as you learn more and more about it?

In this session, we will consider the historical and spiritual significance of Jesus' victory over death, fulfilling ancient prophecies and offering forgiveness and new life to all.

Read 1 Corinthians 15:3–4

- Why would Paul call this “of first importance”? Why does this truth have primacy?
- Paul mentions “according to the scriptures” twice in these two verses.
- What role do scriptures and prophecy have in the importance of this message? If you didn't know any of the scriptures pointing to this event, how would that affect your view of Christ's death and resurrection?
- Why did Christ have to die? Could Jesus have accomplished his mission without dying? Why or why not?
- What significance does Jesus' burial have? If we had no information about his burial, how would that affect the believability of the resurrection?
- Why is resurrection so important? What power would Jesus' life and story have for us if there was no resurrection? (See 1 Corinthians 15:12–14)
- Paul delivered to the Corinthians “what I also received.” Why is our personal witness and sharing the gospel with people a vital part of our faith? What would happen if we don't follow this example of receiving and sharing?

Read Luke 24:1–12

- Imagine the women's experience at the tomb in Luke 24:1–6—grieving, then shocked to find Jesus gone, and hearing the angels' words. How might you have reacted in their place?
- Pastor Lee said, “*You can't fake death by crucifixion.*” How does the historical reality of Jesus' death and resurrection strengthen your faith?
- Why is it significant that women were the first witnesses of the empty tomb?

Read Acts 2:29–33

- The sermon highlights King David's prophecy in Psalm 16:10, written 1000 years before Jesus, and its fulfillment in Christ's resurrection. What does it mean to you that God planned the resurrection long before it happened?

Application – Read Acts 2:38–39

- How does knowing the resurrection is for everyone, including you, change the way you think about your life and your purpose?
- Why is it significant to trust your life after death to someone who has proven power over it?
- What would it look like to live as someone confident in life after death because of Jesus?