

• The resurrection experience was not just for **Jesus**, but also for **us**.

All I want is to know Christ and to experience the power of his resurrection... Philippians 3:10

- The power of Jesus' resurrection is not something we replicate but something we respond too.
- Our experience with the power of God corresponds to our **proximity** with God.

 I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in me will live, even after dying. John 11:25 (NLT)

For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases him. Philippians 2:13 (NLT)

Easter reminds us:

• God is our **source** of life and strength.

The resurrection means:

Jesus did what He said He would do.

"They will mock me... and flog me... and kill me; but after three days I will come back to life again." Mark 10:34 (LB)

Jesus is who He claimed to be.

Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father! John 14:9

"I am the Resurrection and the Life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies." John 11:25

Jesus has the power to transform lives.

"No one takes my life from me. I have the power to lay it down and I have the power to take it up again." John 10:18

Jesus defeated death and kicked Satan's butt.

In this way (by the cross) God took away Satan's power to accuse you of sin, and God openly displayed to the whole world Christ's triumph at the cross where your sins were all taken away. Colossians 2:15 (TLB)

• The resurrection allows us to experience hope.

Let us give thanks to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! Because of his great mercy he gave us new life by raising Jesus Christ from death. This fills us with a living hope. 1 Peter 1:3 (GNT)

The Easter experience gives us hope because:

God really does love us.

Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise Him; He has put Him to grief. Isaiah 53:10 (NKJV)

When we were utterly helpless, Christ came at just the right time and died for us sinners. Now, most people would not be willing to die for an upright person, though someone might perhaps be willing to die for a person who is especially good. But <u>God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners</u>. Romans 5:6-8 (MSG)

How this give us a hope to live with:

You don't have to earn God's love, it's a gift.

ACTION STEP:

Accept God's <u>love</u> to you in His Son Jesus.

The Easter experience also gives us hope because:

We've been completely <u>forgiven</u>.

"It is finished!" Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit. John 19:30

"In Christ we are <u>set free</u> by the blood of his death. And so <u>we have forgiveness of sins</u> because of God's <u>rich</u> <u>grace</u>." Ephesians 1:7

How this give us a hope to live with:

There is nothing you have done, nothing you could do that God has not already forgiven.

You don't have to live with guilt.

So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus. Romans 8:1

ACTION STEP:

Accept God's gift of forgiveness.

The Easter experience also gives us hope because:

• We're no longer afraid to die.

Jesus promised, "I AM the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, even though they die like everyone else, they will live again." John 11:25 (NLT)

After I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me so that you may be where I am. John 14:3

"If a man dies, will he live again?" Job 14:14.

How this gives us a hope to live with:

We know God has more for us than this life.

ACTION STEP:

• Trust that God has a place for you.

The Easter experience also gives us hope because:

• We now have God's Spirit inside of us.

"I pray that you will begin to understand how incredibly great the power is to help those who believe him. It is that same mighty power that raised Christ from the dead." Ephesians 1:19-20

How this gives us a hope to live with:

I face everything in this life with God.

ACTION PLAN:

Rely on God's strength in your life.



TO CREATIVELY LOVE AND LEAD PEOPLE IN A GROWING RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS.

Questions that can be used in Connection Groups: These questions also work well for personal time with God.

What scripture and/or point spoke most to you from the Talk on Sunday? Explain why?

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- Go through the points and personalize it. Ask why does God want me to have a living hope and how do I nurture a living hope?

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Today's Talk..



"How to EXPERIENCE LIVING HOPE"