



- We spend our days **managing** the **life** we've created rather than experiencing the life Jesus came to give us.
- The resurrection is more than a story about Jesus, it displays the **life** we get from Jesus.  
1 Early on Sunday morning, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and found that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance. 2 She ran and found Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved. She said, "They have taken the Lord's body out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!" John 20:1-2

11 Mary was standing outside the tomb crying, and as she wept, she stooped and looked in. 12 She saw two white-robed angels, one sitting at the head and the other at the foot of the place where the body of Jesus had been lying. 13 "Dear woman, why are you crying?" the angels asked her. "Because they have taken away my Lord," she replied, "and I don't know where they have put him." 14 She turned to leave and saw someone standing there. It was Jesus, but she didn't recognize him. 15 "Dear woman, why are you crying?" Jesus asked her. "Who are you looking for?" She thought he was the gardener. "Sir," she said, "if you have taken him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will go and get him." 16 "Mary!" Jesus said. She turned to him and cried out, "Rabboni!" (which is Hebrew for "Teacher"). John 20:11-16

#### **Different responses to the story:**

- He seems like a **good guy** - I'm not sure He "gets" me.
- He seems a **little intense** - I'm not sure I "get" Him.
- He seems **too good to be true**. - I'm "all in" with Him.

#### **To experience new life, we need to understand:**

- The **cross** is for **you** personally.
- The empty tomb shows what's possible for **you**.

And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives. Romans 6:4 (NLT)

- It's more than Jesus being changed, all who **believe** are being changed.  
God saved you through faith as an act of kindness. You had nothing to do with it. **Being saved is a gift from God.** Ephesians 2:8 (GW)

If you **confess** with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and **believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead**, you will be saved. Romans 10:9 (NLT)

You don't have to wait for the End. I am, right now, Resurrection and Life. The one who believes in me, even though he or she dies, will live. And everyone who lives believing in me does not ultimately die at all. **Do you believe this?** John 11:25-26 (MSG)

I'm Alive. I died, but I came to life, and my life is now forever. Revelation 1:18 (MSG)

#### **The resurrection changes everything, because:**

- You don't have to be **defined** by your **past**.  
"He has forgiven all our sins... and canceled every record of the debt we owed; Christ has done away with it by nailing it to the cross." Colossians 3:14 (JB)

- Your life **counts** for something.

Christ gives meaning to your life. Colossians 3:4 (CEV)

He included everyone in His death so everyone could be included in His life, A FAR BETTER LIFE than people ever lived on their own. 2 Corinthians 5:15 (MSG)

- You can have a **fulfilled life**.

**It stands to reason, doesn't it, that if the alive-and-present God who raised Jesus from the dead moves into your life, he'll do the same thing in you that he did in Jesus**, bringing you alive to himself? When God lives and breathes in you (and he does, as surely as he did in Jesus), you are delivered from that dead life. With his Spirit living in you, **your body will be as alive as Christ's!** Romans 8:11 (MSG)

What a God we have! And how fortunate we are to have him, this Father of our Master Jesus! **Because Jesus was raised from the dead, we've been given a brand-new life and have everything to live for, including a future in heaven**—and the future starts now! 1 Peter 1:3-4 (MSG)

*(Jesus said)* "I came so you can have **REAL AND ETERNAL LIFE**, more and better life than you ever dreamed of." John 10:10 (MSG)

#### **Action Step:**

- Accept that Jesus is who He **claimed to be**.

If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and **believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead**, you will be saved. Romans 10:9 (NLT)

- Exchange my **old** life for a **new** life.

My old self has been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. So I live in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. Galatians 2:20 (NLT)

VISION:

**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.*

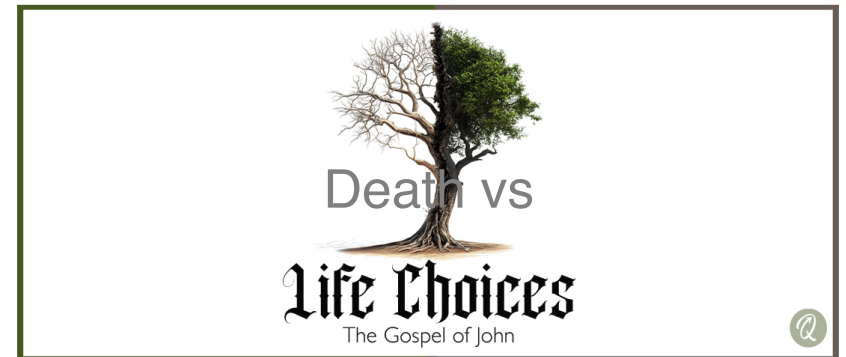
- What scripture and/or point spoke most to you from the Talk on Sunday? Explain.
- Why do we settle for a managed life rather than stepping into the life Jesus wants us to have?
- In your own words what does it mean to experience the resurrection personally?
- Read John 20:11-16; What in this story stands out to you?
- How does the empty tomb show what's possible for you?
- What does new life mean to you? (What are some characteristics of a new life?) What are some of the changes Jesus has made in your life since He's given you new life?
- Why do we need a new life?
- What does it mean to accept that Jesus is who He claimed to be?
- How do we exchange our old life for a new life?

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