

LIFE GROUP APPLICATION QUESTIONS

"Toward the Cross" Easter Series

These questions are for the **March 31, 2024** message, "The Resurrection Question." Please read the sermon passage (Luke 24:1-12) together out loud.

Passage Outline

AS WE REFLECT UPON CHRIST'S VICTORY OVER DEATH, NOTE . . .

1. The material evidence needing to be examined. (1-3)
 - a. The tomb in which Jesus was buried is empty.
 - i. The heavy stone had been rolled away.
 - ii. The lives of the soldiers commissioned to guard the tomb are on the line.
 - b. They went into the tomb, but "did not find the body of the Lord Jesus."
2. The critical question needing to be answered. (4-5)
 - a. "Why do you seek the living among the dead?"
 - b. The stone is removed . . .
 - i. Not so that Jesus could get out of the tomb.
 - ii. So that the women could get in to see the evidence. Jesus has risen!
3. The essential design needing to be understood. (6-8)
 - a. Jesus had told his disciples that he would die and be raised to life, the third day.
 - b. Jesus' prophesied and controlled the timing of his death and resurrection.
 - i. "The Son of Man 'must be delivered'" to be crucified.
 - ii. "The Son of Man 'must . . . on the third day rise.'"
4. The personal testimonies needing to be believed. (9-12)
 - a. The Apostles themselves doubted the testimony of the women. (11)
 - b. So Peter went to check out the empty tomb for himself. And he believed. Do you?

Life Group Discussion Questions

1. Based on #1, above: The Christian faith is built upon the fact that Jesus conquered death forever by being raised from the dead. Does this fact still impact your worship? Your anxiety level? Your hope? How?
2. Based on #1, above: How can you get better at taking opportunities to talk about the resurrection of Jesus Christ with believers? With unbelievers? With skeptics?
3. Based on #2, above: Discuss this: the stone was rolled away so that multiple witnesses could go in and see the evidence for themselves that Jesus was not there.
4. Based on #3, above: For sin to be paid for, death is required. God's love is put on display in this: Jesus died in the place of repentant sinners. Talk about this: God loves you that much.
5. Based on #4, above: The women brought a "testimony" of what they had seen Jesus do: he is raised to life. What kinds of things have you seen Jesus do? Do those things still excite you and capture your heart? Who do you think God wants you to tell?