

10. The closing verses of the chapter (29-31) form the essential teaching of the resurrection story. How does John present it?

11. Read 1 Corinthians 15:12-19 as a reminder of the importance of the Resurrection and the key role it plays in the Christian faith.

Personal Reflection

1. What is the biggest challenge to you concerning the Resurrection? Believing it, or telling others about it?
2. What practical changes do you need to make based on this study?

Looking Ahead

Next week's message will focus on Romans 8. Take time to read the chapter and come prepared as we study how this passage helps us to understand how to live as a Follower of Jesus.

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Why Jesus is Better Than the Rest
John 20



Life Group Study Notes

Message from Sunday October 27, 2013
Village Green Community Church
By Jon Korkidakis

Study based
on
John 20:1-31

This Week's Message

In this message we look at the one fact that all Christianity hinges upon: the resurrection. No other religious leader can make that claim. Because we have a risen Saviour, it changes everything.

Study

Read John 20:1-31

1. Was there a key point from the message that you would like to discuss, or expand upon?
2. Looking at verses 1-9, answer the following questions.
 - a. What is the significance of Mary Magdalene being the first witness of the empty tomb?
 - b. What is the importance of John telling us about the condition of the burial cloths that were found in the tomb?
 - c. What is the realization that the disciple had when he entered the tomb (verse 8b)? Why is the use of the word "believe" so important in the context of this Gospel?
3. What is the progression of the stories in the chapter (from vss. 10-31)? Why has John structured them like this?
4. In verses 10-18 we have Mary's encounter with the risen Lord. What possible explanations could there be for Mary not recognizing Jesus at first?
5. Looking at verse 17, Jesus gives Mary instructions to go tell the others. But what is the significance of Jesus using the phrase, "to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God?"
6. In verses 19-23, why is it important for Jesus to invoke a blessing of peace upon the disciples?
7. Each Gospel (and Acts) has a form of the Great Commission. Verses 21-23 are John's version. How does it differ from the one in Matthew 28:18-20?
8. Verses 24-29 recount the meeting of Jesus and Thomas. What demands did Thomas make and did he act on them when faced with the risen Jesus?
9. Why is Thomas' testimony so important in verse 28? What does this teach us about the nature of belief?