

*Women's
Discipleship
Community*



ALIVE

APRIL 2021



SHORELINE.CHURCH



HE IS ALIVE

He is not here; he has risen, just as he said, Matthew 28:6. This month, we will focus on the truth that our faith is not in vain. We trust in a God who is who He says He is! The resurrection of King Jesus seals the promise. Not only has Jesus overcome the power of death, He is alive, active, and intimately involved in our lives. For those who have declared Jesus as their Savior, they are given direct access to Him - the power of the Holy Spirit. This is the same power that raised Jesus from the grave and the same power that is at work within us today. We invite you to reflect on this truth and let it sink deep into your heart.

And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you.

Romans 8:11

When we understand the full weight of the resurrection and what that means for us, we see that our lives are forever changed. We have a story to tell. But this story is not just for us; we are called to a mission to share this story so those who do not yet know Him. In the pages to come, you will have the opportunity to listen to some personal resurrection stories and start to develop your own.

Join us as we celebrate the resurrection power of our Savior, Jesus Christ!

The Lord lives! Praise be to my Rock! Exalted be God my Savior!

Psalm 18:46



CHECK OUT OUR PLAYLIST ON SPOTIFY!

Scan the code below in your Spotify App or search by the name of the playlist.



SHORELINE CHURCH MONTEREY
"APRIL 2021 - WOMEN'S DISCIPLESHIP COMMUNITY"

DAY ONE

READ

Read the following resurrection accounts from each of the four gospels and note the differences and similarities between each.

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Matthew 28:1-10

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Mark 16:1-14

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Luke 24:1-44

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John 20:1-29

	Matthew	Mark	Luke	John
Similarities				
Differences				

REFLECT

1

In a few words, summarize your understanding of Jesus's resurrection. Have you traditionally thought of it as a big deal? Or is it something you have not spent much time thinking about?

2

Write a short prayer thanking God for the resurrection and our future resurrection. Ask Him to use this month to deepen your understanding of this incredible event and what it means for you today.



RESURRECTION ROLLS

A great Easter activity to do with the whole family! Rolls with marshmallows wrapped inside, which become hollow as they bake. The rolls represent the tomb of Jesus on Easter morning, when you break them open they are empty inside!

While making these rolls, take the opportunity to share the gospel message with your kids. For more resources, read Chapter 2 "Sharing Jesus with Your Children" from *Organic Outreach for Families*.

Ingredients

- 1 package refrigerated crescent dough
- 1 bag of large marshmallows
- ½ cup of butter, melted
- ¾ cup of white sugar
- 2 Tablespoons cinnamon

Prep: 10 minutes

Cook: 15 minutes

Total: 25 minutes

Servings: 8

Directions

- 1 Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Grease a muffin tin pan and set aside. Melt butter in a small bowl. Mix together the cinnamon and sugar in a separate small bowl.
- 2 Unroll the crescent dough and separate into the triangles (along the dough perforations).
- 3 Next, hold up a white marshmallow and **explain that it represents Jesus**. Roll the marshmallow in butter and then in the cinnamon and sugar mixture. **Explain that it represents the oils and spices that were rubbed on Jesus after his death before they placed him in the tomb.**
- 4 Place the marshmallow onto a dough triangle near the larger end. Wrap each side of the dough up and over the marshmallow and **explain that the dough represents the tomb where they buried Jesus**. Roll the dough in your hands until all of the marshmallow is covered and sealed.
- 5 Dip the rolled dough in butter and then dip in the cinnamon/sugar mixture and place in the greased muffin tin. Repeat until all of the dough has been used. Bake for 15 minutes.
- 6 Allow the rolls to cool then cut the "tomb" (rolls) down the middle. **Before cutting, ask if the kids remember what happened on the third day (or why we celebrate Easter). Remind them that when they went to the tomb where Jesus was buried, the tomb was empty because Jesus rose.** Cut through the roll and show the kids how the "tomb" is now empty.

DAY TWO

READ

Read the following passage from 1 Corinthians 15. Highlight, circle, or underline keywords and phrases that stick out to you. Use the margin to write any notes or reflections.

The Resurrection of Christ

15 I declare to you, brothers and sisters, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. **51** Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed - **52** in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. **53** For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality. **54** When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: "Death has been swallowed up in victory."

55 "Where, O death, is your victory?
Where, O death, is your sting?"

56 The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. **57** But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. **58** Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

.....
15:50-58 Victory over death is triumphantly certain because of Jesus' resurrection.

15:52 *last trumpet*. Announces the Lord's coming (Isa 27; Joel 2:1; Zeph 1:16; Zech 9:14; Matt 24:31; Rev 8:2). When Christ returns the dead will be raised and the living transformed.

15:55 Reference, Hosea 13:14. Jesus' resurrection defeats once and for all the fatal power that death had over humans; it breaks the power of death since God carried out the death sentence (the just and necessary punishment for sin) when Jesus died on the cross.

15:56 *The sting of death is sin*. Adam's sin introduced death into the world, which is now the fate of all human beings. The presence of sin forces the law to pronounce the death sentence; it is only Jesus' vicarious death on the cross that atones for sin.

15:57 *victory through our Lord Jesus Christ*. Victory over the condemnation for sin that the law brought and over death and the grave, through the death and resurrection of Christ.

15:58 *Therefore*. Because of Christ's resurrection and ours, we know that serving him is not empty or useless. All our efforts in service to Christ are invested in his winning cause. He will also reward us at his second coming.

**Verse notes from Zondervan's NIV Biblical Theology Study Bible*

REFLECT

According to the passage above, why is Jesus's resurrection important? What does it look like for Jesus followers to live well today in light of His resurrection?

RESURRECTION STORIES

When we commit ourselves to Christ, our old way of living is gone and a new life has begun (2 Cor. 5:17). We are resurrected beings, living as those who have encountered the living God and now belong to Him. Once we have made that commitment, we cannot help but share what God has done! "A testimony is a declaration that the Jesus who died on the cross is still alive and active in our lives right now. When people hear these stories, they are faced with the profound reality that we really do believe what we say we believe - our faith is authentic" (*Organic Outreach for Ordinary People*, 209).

Watch the video below (youtu.be/ITPbWbKEkII) from three passionate women who have experienced God's resurrection power in their lives. After listening, write out a short prayer to God praising Him for His great sacrifice of Jesus and for the gift of the Holy Spirit.



Dear Heavenly Father,

DAY THREE

READ

Read Romans 8:9-11 and Romans 6:11-14 using your NIV translation and fill in the missing words. Answer the questions below, and reflect on this truth: The same power that raised Jesus from the grave is at work within you. This power is only given to those who put their faith in Him.

Romans 8:9-11

"You, however, are not in the realm of the _____ but are in the realm of the _____, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ. But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to _____ because of _____, the Spirit gives _____ because of _____. And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you."

Romans 6:11-14

"In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but _____ to God in Christ Jesus. Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires. Do not offer any part of yourself to sin as an instrument of _____, but rather offer yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer every part of yourself to him as an instrument of _____. For sin shall no longer be your master, because you are not under the law, but under _____."

REFLECT

1 What do these two passages above reveal about followers of Jesus? What truths do you learn about yourself? Use the bullet points below to jot down a few ideas.

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2 How does this change your understanding of your power over sin in your day-to-day life? Why would the resurrection give you a reason to avoid giving in to the temptation to do "whatever you want"?

THE POWER OF STORIES

When we give an authentic and passionate testimony, we declare that we really do believe in a God who is active and powerful. We experience God at work in our lives every single day. In order to be prepared to give an answer for the hope that we have (1 Peter 3:15), use the table below to help you jot down notes of how you first became a follower of Jesus. Use the following page to organize your notes and write it out.

<i>Question</i>	<i>Response</i>
THE WHEN... Age, place in life.	
THE WHO... God sent a messenger(s) to share the gospel. What were their words and actions?	
THE BIG WHO... What divine truth about Jesus first touched your heart and drew you to commit your life to Him?	
THE HOW... Describe the moment you came to know Jesus as your Savior. What did you see, hear, smell, taste, and/or feel?	
THE CHANGE... What did your life look like before Christ? What does your life look like now that you have decided to live for Him?	
THE CHALLENGE... Write the name of a person in your life who does not yet know Jesus. When will you see them next? Plan a time to share your story with this person. Pray for an organic and natural way to approach the topic.	

YOUR STORY

WRITE

Use your notes from the previous page to write out your resurrection story as you would say it verbally. It is helpful to plan out what you might say so you can be sure not to omit any important details. The more we are prepared, the more natural the conversation will be when the opportunity arises!

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MORE RESOURCES

Interested in going deeper? Here are a few resources to help you continue to reflect on the resurrection and what that means for us today. The Bible study resources from RightNow Media require an account to access. Set-up your free account through Shoreline Church at www.shoreline.church/rightnow-media.

BOOKS & BIBLES

Organic Outreach for Ordinary People by Kevin G. Harney

Organic Outreach for Families by Kevin Harney and Sherry Harney

Organic Outreach for Churches by Kevin G. Harney

The NIV Biblical Theology Study Bible from Zondervan Publishers

The NIV Life Application Bible from Zondervan Publishers

BIBLE STUDIES

The Journey by Dave Cornes on RightNow Media

Easter by J.D. Greear on RightNow Media

Good Friday and Easter by Francis Chan on RightNow Media

Jesus Saves by IF:Gathering on RightNow Media

The Six Miracles of Calvary by William Nicholson on RightNow Media

SERMONS & PODCASTS

"He Was Dead, and Now He is Alive...Embrace the Resurrection!" *Miraculous Sermon Series* with Kevin Harney, Shoreline Church

"I Am the Resurrection and the Life" *I Am Sermon Series* with Kevin Harney, Shoreline Church

"Real Death, and Real Resurrection" *Easter 2019* with Kevin Harney, Shoreline Church

"Resurrection Hope" Episode 5, *Faithfulness in Exile Podcast* by The Bible Project

"The Resurrection of Jesus: Luke 24" Episode 5, *Luke-Acts Podcast* by The Bible Project