

SERMON NOTES

Date: April 16, 2017

Title: What If Jesus Didn't Rise

Text: 1 Corinthians 15:17

Big Idea: If Jesus didn't rise our world would be a very different place than it is today.

I. Introduction

A. How would life in our world today be different today if the resurrection never happened?

B. Is there good evidence for the resurrection?

- empty tomb
- eye witnesses

II. Two Tragic Effects If Jesus Didn't Rise

A. Your faith is futile.

B. You are still in your sins.

STUDY GUIDE

For the Week of April 16, 2017
Questions for Personal Application and Small Group Discussion

REVIEW THE SERMON

Read 1 Corinthians 15:1-24. Do you agree with the statement that Christianity stands or falls on the truthfulness of the resurrection? Why is it so critical to the Christian faith and practice? _____

ASSESS YOUR LIFE

How would your daily life be practically different if Jesus didn't rise from the dead? _____

Is your life as different as it should be because Jesus did rise? How can the resurrection affect your life like it did Paul's life in Philippians 3:7-11? _____

APPLY THE TRUTH

1 Peter 3:15 tells us to "always be prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason or the hope that is in you." If you were asked by a skeptic to give reasons why you believe Jesus rose from the dead, what would you say? _____

According to Peter, what two characteristics should guide the way you answer those who object to the hope of the resurrection (cf. 1 Peter 3:15)? Why is this important? _____

COMMIT THIS WEEK

Are there objections to the resurrection that you don't know how to answer? Spend some time this week prayerfully reading and preparing an answer to those objections. _____
