



Week: 4 – Did Jesus rise from the dead?

Date: May 2, 2021

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 15:1-8, 12-19

Big Idea: Did Jesus rise from the dead? This is a historical question that requires some historical investigating. To establish historical truths, historians have developed a certain criterion to answer claims from the past. Many have come up with reasons or questions to doubt if Jesus really did rise from the dead. But do these doubts hold up to the evidence? Can these doubts really meet all of the criteria developed by historians? The evidence seems to point to and meet all the criteria established, that Jesus did in fact rise from the dead.

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KippHyDFuGc>

Preparation: Mom and/or dad, take time to prepare well for this spiritual experience with your son or daughter and perhaps their friends. Proper preparation includes reading through this guide, setting up a comfortable environment, preparing the videos, materials (*everyone will need a Bible, pen and notebook/journal*) and snacks, and prayer. It also includes giving your participants time to prepare as well. Let them know in advance what you want to do and then remind them a few minutes before your start time so that they are ready too.

Interactive game/activity: (10 minutes) *1 Minute Mystery* – Click [HERE](#)

- **LIVE:** Divide the group into two teams. Using the [GOOGLE SLIDES](#) presentation teams will view a short mystery that they need to solve. When the Mystery slide is presented, after the host says, “GO” the host will start a timer. Each team must read and solve the mystery presented on the screen. Whoever solves the mystery the fastest wins. Host can determine that after ____ amount of time (say 3 minutes) if no team has given an answer, then each team can give their best guess. Whoever is closest (as determined by the host) in their guess wins that round.
- Answers to the mystery are presented in the slide immediately following the mystery slide.
- **ONLINE & @HOME:** Rather than splitting into teams, work together to determine the best guess.

Activity Debrief: (This would be a good time to pull out the snacks)

- If someone wrote a mystery movie or book based on your life, what would the title be? And who would play you in the movie?

Video Teaching: Apologetics – [Did Jesus Rise From The Dead?](#)

Set-up: (Say to the group)

There is a lot of historical controversy around the resurrection of Jesus. Did the disciples lie and steal the body? Did they go to the wrong tomb? Could all of the people who claimed to see Jesus after His resurrection claims REALLY have seen Him or were they just hallucinating? Before we watch today’s video, what are some things people say to disprove the resurrection of Jesus? How do some people “explain it away”?

Play the video [HERE](#).



Ice Breakers:

- If you could be famous for any one thing, what would you want to be famous for? Why?

Discussion Starters:

- What were the four criteria given at the start of today's teaching to establish historical facts? (*Early Sources, Multiple Sources, Lacks Legendary Embellishment, No Other Competing Stories*) Summarize these as a group.
- What were the four evidences given for the validity of Jesus resurrection? Think about BEAT. (*Burial of Jesus, Empty Tomb, Appearance of Jesus, Transformation of the Disciples*)
- Summarize these as a group.
- Which evidence is most convincing? Which of these do you still question? Why?

Scripture: Read 1 Corinthians 15:1-8, 12-18 as a group and consider the questions below.

¹Now, brothers and sisters, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. ²By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain. ³For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, ⁴that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, ⁵and that he appeared to Cephas, and then to the Twelve. ⁶After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers and sisters at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. ⁷Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles, ⁸and last of all he appeared to me also, as to one abnormally born.

¹²But if it is preached that Christ has been raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. ¹⁴And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith. ¹⁵More than that, we are then found to be false witnesses about God, for we have testified about God that he raised Christ from the dead. But he did not raise him if in fact the dead are not raised. ¹⁶For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised either. ¹⁷And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins. ¹⁸Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ are lost.

Digging Deeper: (you may need to re-read the passage after asking these questions.)

- What is the Gospel that Paul is talking about in verse 1? (See verses 3-4)
- Think back to B.E.A.T. Where do you see B.E.A.T. in this passage? (See verses 5-8 Christ Appeared, see verses 14&17 Transformation)
- How many people does Paul say Jesus appeared to in this passage?
- What does Paul say about himself and the disciples in regard to the resurrection of Jesus? (see verse 15)

Application:

- What difference does it make in your life to know and believe this about Jesus? How are you different because of what you believe about Jesus? How is your life different?



Closing activity & prayer: choose 1 of the following options to close your time together.

- SINGING: Sing [Resurrecting](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aHGFNUIEZ8M) by Elevation (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aHGFNUIEZ8M>)
- JOURNALING: Reflect on the words of 1 Corinthians 15:3-4 and what it might mean in your life now. Focus specifically on the idea of peace and where you experience it and need it right now.
 - *³For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, ⁴that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures."*
- SCRIPTURE: Meditate on, memorize, and make this verse your prayer: Romans 8:11
 - *"If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you"*
- PRAYING: Close your group time in prayer for one another. Share prayer requests and assign partners to pray for one another throughout the week.