

# Easter Sunday

## “What if . . . ?”

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1 Corinthians 15:12-19

“Belief in the resurrection is not an appendage to the Christian faith, it is the Christian faith.” John Whale

Today we want to ask two questions:

1. What does it mean for my life if the resurrection didn't happen?
2. What does it mean for my life if it really did happen?

What if it didn't happen?

If the resurrection didn't happen then \_\_\_\_\_ is a sham. Jesus is a liar who is not \_\_\_\_\_, and you should stay as far away from Christianity as you can get. (1 Corinthians 15:12-19)

What if it did happen?

If the resurrection did happen then the \_\_\_\_\_ is to take Jesus up on His offer of grace and forgiveness, giving Him the leadership role in our lives. (Acts 2:32-39)

How can we know if it really happened?

1. We can explore the \_\_\_\_\_ for ourselves. (See list of resources on the back page of these notes.)
2. We can look at the \_\_\_\_\_ of those who follow Christ. (Ephesians 1:18-20)

Where do we go from here?

Each of us has to \_\_\_\_\_ what we believe—and then we must have the \_\_\_\_\_ on what we decide.

What do I miss out on if I don't make a decision?

If the resurrection really happened, then you miss out on having the \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus intended you to have. (John 10:10)

If the resurrection really happened, then you miss out on being part of something \_\_\_\_\_—partnering with God in His work of restoring this world. (1 Corinthians 15:58)

Talk it over... with your friends, family, or Growth Group. *Talking through the ideas presented in Sunday's message helps us apply God's word to our individual lives. These questions are designed to help you put His words into action in your life this week.*

- Do you believe that the resurrection really happened? Why or why not?
- If you have a hard time believing that the resurrection is a real historical event, that's understandable. What questions do you have about the historical facts surrounding the resurrection? What kind of work do you need to do in order to find answers to those questions?
- If you have put your faith in Christ, do you see evidence of resurrection power in your life? Where? If not, why do you think that is and what do you need to do about it?
- Why do you think God had you here today? What do you need to do in response to how you encountered God in worship this morning?

**Some next steps:** Here are some things you can do this week to dig deeper:

- Got plans this Saturday? Why not plan on joining us for Beautiful Day and give of your time and energy to make a difference in our community. Sign up today in the Welcome Center or get more info and register online at [www.rcctulsa.org](http://www.rcctulsa.org)
- If you have questions about the historical evidence for the resurrection there are some great resources available to help you sort through that for yourself. Check out books like *More than a Carpenter*, *Mere Christianity*, or *The Case for Christ*—all of which are available on-line.
- Remember, if you're visiting with us today and would like a free copy of Josh and Sean McDowell's book *More than a Carpenter* we'd love to give you one. Just stop by the desk in the Welcome Center and grab one.

