

LIFE GROUP SERMON SUMMARY QUESTIONS

EASTER

Watch the video summary of the **April 5, 2015 Sermon** (3.5 minutes), "Risen, As He Said." Please read the sermon passage (Matthew 27:57-28:15) together out loud.

Sermon Outline:

AS WE COMMEMORATE CHRIST'S RESURRECTION, NOTE. . .

1. **The certainty of Christ's death** (Matthew 27:57-61)
 - A. Pilate and the Roman guards were in the business of making sure their victims died.
 - B. This text identifies the two Mary's as witnessing Christ's death and burial.
2. **The securing of Christ's tomb** (27:62-66)
 - A. The tomb is sealed and guarded.
 - B. The guards were instructed to make the tomb "as sure as they could."
3. **The response of Christ's followers** (28:1-10)
 - A. God specializes in producing verifiable evidence.
 - B. Examine the Holy of Holies, the empty tomb: Jesus is not here because he is risen from the dead.
4. **The efforts of Christ's opponents** (11-15)
 - A. Their cover-ups are lame and flimsy.
 - B. Jesus produces exactly what he promised he would.

Life Group Discussion Questions

1. Based on #1, above: Have you ever talked to someone who doubted Jesus' death? What arguments did they make? How does this eyewitness account help you?
2. Based on #3, above: Have you ever talked to someone who doubted Jesus' resurrection? What arguments did they make? How does this eyewitness account help you?
3. Based on #3, above: We must constantly come back to the reality of Christ's death and resurrection as a historical fact. It really happened. Consider what 1 Corinthians 15:12-18 has to say about the importance of Christ's resurrection. Do you think you talk enough about Christ's resurrection? Do you talk plainly about it? Do you talk convincingly about it?
4. Because Christ has risen we know he is the one-and-only Promised One, the Messiah, the Son of God, the Son of Man. Because Christ has risen we know God is pleased with him perfectly. Because God raised Jesus from the dead we know that every claim he made is true. Because Christ is raised from the dead we know that all who trust him will be raised, living forever because of him and with him. Reflect on these truths.
5. Because Christ has risen from the dead we know that those who trust any other gods are still in their sin. Reflect on this truth.
6. How do these truths motivate your readiness and urgency in reaching friends with the hope of Jesus' resurrection?