



I am... the resurrection and the life

As we journey through the "I am" series over the next few weeks and we discover more about Jesus, He extends an invitation to us to go deeper with Him. This pamphlet is designed to help you think more deeply and reflect, in different ways, on the sermon topics. It is filled with suggestions of things to read, watch and listen to and we hope it encourages you to go deeper during the week and connect with God in meaningful ways. Our prayer is that, as we behold Jesus over the coming weeks, our eyes would be opened and our hearts would be changed. May His love and wonder delight and encourage you.

"Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?'" - John 11:25-26



Suggestion 1: Spend some time reading John 11 and these other Scriptures about resurrection.

- John 5:20-23
 - John 6:39-40
 - Romans 5:17-19
 - Romans 8:11
 - 1 Corinthians 15:20-26
 - 1 Corinthians 15:50-58
 - Ephesians 1:19-23
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- What stands out for you most from these passages?
 - Why do you think resurrection is such a critical concept in Scripture?
 - What emotion do these passage evoke in you? Why do you think this is?
 - Why do you think it is significant that Jesus did not say that He BRINGS resurrection and life, but that He IS the resurrection and life?
 - In what areas of your life do you feel like you need resurrection right now?

*"...and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms..." -
Ephesians 1:19-20*



Suggestion 2: Watch / listen to / read some further resources about Jesus - the Resurrection and Life

- A sermon by Craig Groeschel: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ziSg2gXbQfM>
- A Bible study by Bob Deffinbaugh: <https://bible.org/seriespage/13-resurrection-and-life-john-111-53>
- A lecture by R.C Sproul: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=APjUJhMEsFY>
- A study on John 11:
http://www.jesuswalk.com/john/20_resurrection.htm
- Some thought-provoking study questions about John 11: <http://www.youthworker.com/the-i-am-study-i-am-the-resurrection-and-the-life/>



Suggestion 3: Take part in / remember Ash Wednesday

This Wednesday we observe Ash Wednesday which marks the beginning of Lent and the 40 days in which we journey with Jesus towards the cross. We remember the cost of Calvary and what the death of Jesus really means for us, and the ashes we remember today remind us not just of Christ's death, but of our own mortality. We acknowledge our frailty and mortality – that we know that we are just dust (Psalm 103:14) – and that this earthly life and the possessions we gather and empires we build are temporary. Dust to dust, ashes to ashes. We remember that we were created for eternity and that it can only be found in Christ. We remember that death must come before life.

As you reflect on Ash Wednesday, consider the things in your life that have become ashes. What are the ruins in which you are trusting God to bring resurrection? What are the places of death in your life in which you need His life. What must die in you so that you can really live?

PRAYER

We come to remember...

We come to remember dust and ashes and death

We come to remember the journey You took

One that went from obscurity to adulation to humiliation to darkness – and ultimately to a brightness and a greater glory than we can understand

We come again to remember that You emptied Yourself and became like the creatures You created – the people that You lovingly formed from dust – and that You gave Yourself for us

We come so that we may never forget that our life cost Your death



Suggestion 4: Pray about resurrection in your life

Pray about the things in your life about which you are:

- Angry at God that He didn't show up or do what you asked of Him
- Waiting on Him to come and do a miracle
- Trusting for His resurrection power to bring beauty out of ashes and something new out of ruins.
- Feeling hopeless.

Commit these things to God in prayer and ask Him to grow your faith to trust Him and to surrender everything to Him.



"This is the Christian hope - that death does not have hte ultimate word, or the final word. Death brings many things to an end, but the power of HIm who is the resurrection means that for all of God's peopel life has the last word," - Ian Campbell