IIFEGROUPS STUDY GUIDE

"They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer." Acts 2:42

→ SERIES: Mark

> MESSAGE TITLE: Jesus is the Risen Savior

MESSAGE DATE: 04/20/2025

MESSAGE SUMMARY:

Pastor Matt Ousdahl emphasizes the transformative significance of Jesus' resurrection, asserting that it is the cornerstone of Christian faith. He highlights that while Jesus' death provided forgiveness, it is the resurrection that offers freedom, grace, and access to God's power. Acknowledging skepticism, he encourages listeners to pursue truth and follow the evidence, understanding that faith involves uncertainty but ultimately leads to a decision about faith in Jesus. The message concludes by inviting individuals to respond to the resurrection, celebrating that Easter symbolizes hope and new life.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1.) What does it mean to you that Jesus' death is like having a key, while his resurrection is like the treasure that the key unlocks?

Pastor Matt emphasized that the death of Jesus is important, but it is the resurrection that truly brings life and hope.

How can understanding the significance of both Jesus' death and resurrection change the way you approach your own challenges and setbacks in life?

2.) Pastor Matt mentioned that faith is the evidence of things unseen. How do you interpret this idea of faith in your own life?

The message highlighted that faith involves believing in things we can't see or understand completely, similar to the story of Doubting Thomas.

Can you share a time when you had to rely on faith? What did that experience teach you?

3.) Why do you think some people are skeptical about the resurrection of Jesus, and how can we approach conversations with them?

Pastor Matt acknowledged that skepticism is common, especially regarding such a miraculous claim as someone coming back to life.

How can you show empathy towards skeptics while also sharing your faith in a respectful and understanding way?



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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

4.) How does the idea of prioritizing truth resonate with you, especially when it comes to understanding your beliefs?

The message challenged everyone to prioritize truth over preconceived notions, as seen in the example of the high priest who dismissed Jesus' claims without seeking the truth.

In what ways can you actively seek the truth in your everyday life, especially in situations where you may feel uncertain?

5.) What are some examples of evidence for your faith that you feel you can share with others, as highlighted in the sermon?

Pastor Matt talked about the historical evidence and experiences of believers, which serve as a basis for their faith, like the soldiers witnessing Jesus' death.

How can sharing your personal experiences or the evidence you have for your faith impact others in your school or community?