He has risen! He has risen indeed!

INTRO

Jesus rose from the dead. He did this so you could have new life.

"...just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life." Romans 6:4b

What will it take for us to start living that life?

I wonder, has the resurrection of Jesus become like an old hat?

-Are we in the market for new inspiration?

-If I'm being honest, this is the question that struck me personally.

I had to asked myself this, and for me the answer was yes. Once a year the resurrection is thrust into the forefront; Easter. But if it's true, if he really did do this, and based on my faith in his death and resurrection, I have been given resurrection life, should I not, in response, believe & live *everyday* not just around the Easter season?

I am not trying to pack your bags for a guilt trip, rather encourage you based on the truth of scripture: Church, Jesus rose from the dead so that you may have new life. May we BELIEVE & LIVE!

Context

Jesus appeared to Mary, we learn in Luke as the risen Christ was on his way to reveal himself to the disciples, he runs across 2 of guys on a road called Emmaus and reveals himself as the risen Lord. All three reported back to the disciples.

Read vs. 19

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews

Fear-They killed Jesus. They could easily kill his followers. Yet Jesus about to replace their fear with peace. How does he do it; by scaring them?

John says, *Jesus came and stood among them.* His account of the story doesn't reveal fear because, as we learned last week, John saw the empty tomb and believed. The others weren't quit there yet. Check out Luke's account.

As they were talking about these things, Jesus himself stood among them, and said to them, "Peace to you!" But they were startled and frightened and thought they saw a spirit. Luke 24:36–37

If you just watched someone die and they show up in your living room. "Hey guys".

And like what he says in Luke, he says in John, *"Peace be with you".* "Shalom Aleichem" Peace be upon you. "Aleichem Shalom" Upon you be peace.

As we learned when we passed the peace, Jesus said in John 14:27, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you."

As a Christian, you are gifted with the peace of Christ. It's rooted in the truth of who Christ is and what he did, and the exclamation point at the end of this truth is his resurrection! HE HAS RISEN! HE HAS RISEN INDEED! Do you believe? Then you have the peace of Christ; the peace that surpasses all understanding & guards your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus according to Philippians, and the peace we are to "let" rule in our hearts.

And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Colossians 3:15

The reason we are commanded to "let" is because it's something that exists already. Therefore we let/allow the peace of Christ to guard & rule our hearts and minds.

1. Church, you have the peace of Christ, BELIEVE & LIVE

Read vs. 20

And while they still disbelieved for joy and were marveling, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" Luke 24:41

Apparently being resurrected causes an appetite. This could be why when we are raised with Christ and receive our new bodies, we have a feast.

Read vs. 21

Our main point is BELIEVE & LIVE. Jesus reiterates point 1, Church, you have the peace of Christ, BELIEVE & LIVE

We are sent. We have a purpose! Our salvation, our sanctification (maturity & growth) Does not end with us. 2 Corinthians makes this point clear.

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.

Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. 2 Corinthians 5:17–21

HE HAS RISEN! HE HAS RISEN INDEED! Do you believe?

You have the peace of Christ &...

Church, you are ambassadors of Christ, BELIEVE & LIVE

Read vs. 22

There's a picture John is painting that eludes back to 2 Cor. 5, we are a new creation. -First creation story.

then the LORD God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature. Genesis 2:7

In the new creation, God breaths, exhales, life into our already existent bodies based on our faith in him, and then, because the fall has been overcome, our sin forgiven, death defeated, and we have become, been declared, the righteousness of God, we have the Holy Spirit. This is no small truth.

But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. 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. Romans 8:10–11 HE HAS RISEN! HE HAS RISEN INDEED! Do you believe?

You have the peace of Christ. You are ambassadors of Christ Church, you are filled with the Spirit, **BELIEVE & LIVE**

Read vs. 24-28

Address unbelievers,

-Prophecies fulfilled

-People have set their lives to disprove the resurrection of Jesus, and most of them become Christians. Don't blow this off. Light is around the corner, Life can be found. Study for yourself and come to know our Lord & God, Jesus Christ! -invite all to WORSHIP!

joy and were marveling "My Lord & My God"

Read vs. 29 He has Risen! He has risen indeed! Do you believe? You have the peace of Christ. You are ambassadors of Christ. You are filled with the Spirit. Church, you are blessed. BELIEVE & LIVE

Is this not the point? To live a life of faith, to wake up everyday, not just on Easter, but every single day and remember...

Lord, you rose from the dead to give me new life. I will live a resurrected life today. I will not get caught up in the mundane mediocre rat race whose current runs through this world like a river. I will go against flow because you rose again.

Read vs. 30-31, True Faith in the true Christ that you may have true life.

It's time to dust off the old hat on the hat rack, and remember just how true the resurrection is, believe them again, and live!

He has Risen! He has risen indeed! Do you believe? you have the peace of Christ

you are ambassadors of Christ you are filled with the Spirit You are blessed. BELIEVE & LIVE Invite band up, Pray Set up Communion

BELIEVE & LIVE, John 20:19-31

Main Point <u>Believe & Live</u>
Key Words <u>Peace be with you, 3x, believe, 6x</u>
Key Verse Vs. 31
FCFFear, Disbelieve
General God Key Words Command Truth Sin

Jesus Appears to the Disciples

[19] On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." [20] When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. [21] Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." [22] And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. [23] If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld."

Jesus and Thomas

[24] Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. [25] So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe."
[26] Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." [27] Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe." [28] Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" [29] Jesus said to him,

<u>"Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."</u>

The Purpose of This Book

[30] Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; [31] but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name. (ESV)