

THE ANSWER IS EASTER

The Answer Is Easter – Message 1

“God has called you to endure suffering because Christ suffered for you. He also left you an example so that you could follow in his footsteps.”

1 Peter 2:21

I. FRIDAY: THE DAY OF PAIN

“Since Jesus went through suffering and temptation, he knows what it is like when we suffer and are tempted, and he is able to help us.”

Hebrews 2:18

WHAT DO I DO IN DAYS OF PAIN?

1. _____

“Jesus took his disciples with him to Gethsemane and said ‘Stay here with me while I pray.’ Then he took Peter, James, and John a little further. He was filled with anguish and deep distress, and he said to them, ‘My heart is so overwhelmed and crushed with sorrow that I feel like I’m dying. Just sit here and watch with me.’ Then Jesus took a few more steps, fell to the ground and prayed...”

Matthew 26:36-39

2. _____

“Jesus fell face down on the ground and prayed that if possible, he would not have to suffer the pain ahead of him. He prayed ‘Abba! Father! I know you can do all things. And I don’t want to have to drink this cup of suffering. Nevertheless, I want your will, not mine, to be done.’”

Mark 14:35-36

The Gethsemane Model: 3 things to pray when in pain

- **Affirm God’s power: I know**
- **Express your desire: I don’t want**
- **Offer your trust: I want**

II. SATURDAY: THE DAY OF CONFUSION

“Then Jesus told them, ‘Before the night’s over, you’re going to fall to pieces because of what happens to me.’”

Matthew 26:31 (Mes)

“At that point, all the disciples abandoned Jesus and ran away.”

Matthew 26:56

HOW DO I GET THROUGH DAYS OF CONFUSION?

Answer: _____

“For ALL the promises of God find their ‘Yes’ in Jesus Christ!”

2 Corinthians 1:20

God promises: “To all who mourn in Zion, I will give beauty for ashes, joy instead of mourning, and praise instead of despair.”

Isaiah 61:3

“When you go through deep waters and great trouble, I will be with you. When you go through rivers of difficulty, you will not drown! When you walk through the fire of oppression, you will not be burned up—the flames will not consume you! For I am the Lord, your God and Savior!”

Isaiah 43:2-3

III. SUNDAY: THE DAY OF JOY

HOW DO I GET TO THE DAYS OF JOY?

Answer: _____

“Jesus said, ‘I AM the resurrection and the life! Whoever believes in me, even though they die, will live again. I give them eternal life for believing in me and they will never perish!’”

John 11:25-26

“I pray that you will begin to understand how incredibly great his power is to help those who believe him. It is that same mighty power that raised Christ from the dead.”

Ephesians 1:19-20

“I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death...”

Philippians 3:10

A LIFE CHANGING PRAYER:

“If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.”

Romans 10:9

EASTER IN 3D

The Answer Is Easter – Message 2

3 DIMENSIONS OF JESUS' RESURRECTION The Proof... the Promise... the Power

1. The PROOF: _____

Matt. 12:39-40, 17:22-23, 20:18-19, Luke 24:46-48, John 2:19-22

“Christ died for our sins, just as the Scriptures said. He was buried, and then he was raised from the dead on the third day. He was seen by Peter and then by the twelve apostles. After that, he was seen by more than five hundred of his followers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died by now. Then he was seen by James and later by all of the apostles. Last of all, I saw him too...”

1 Corinthians 15:3-8

2. The PROMISE: _____

Jesus said, “I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live again.”

John 11:25

“By his power God raised the Lord from the dead, and he will also raise us!”

1 Corinthians 6:14

“Now we live with a wonderful expectation because Jesus Christ rose again from the dead. For God has reserved a priceless inheritance for his children. It is kept in heaven for you, pure and undefiled, beyond the reach of change and decay. And God, in his mighty power, will protect you until you receive this salvation, because you are trusting him.”

1 Peter 1:3b-6

3. The POWER: _____

“Jesus included everyone in his death so that everyone could also be included in his life, a resurrection life, a far better life than people ever lived on their own.”

2 Corinthians 5:15 (MSG)

“I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection!”

Philippians 3:10

“May you experience the love of Christ, though it is so great you will never fully understand it. Then you will be filled with the fullness of life and power that comes from God. By his mighty power at work within us, he is able to accomplish infinitely more than we would ever dare to ask or hope!”

Ephesians 3:19-20

HOW DO I GET THE FULL BENEFIT OF JESUS' RESURRECTION?

1. _____

“If you confess with your mouth, ‘Jesus is Lord,’ and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.”

Romans 10:9

2. _____

“God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.”

John 3:16

3. _____

*“I think you ought to know about the hard time we went through in Asia. We were really crushed and overwhelmed, and feared we would never live through it. We felt we were doomed to die and saw how powerless we were to help ourselves; **BUT THAT WAS GOOD**, for then we put everything into the hands of God, who alone could save us, for he can even raise the dead. And he did help us and saved us... and we expect him to do it again and again!”*

2 Corinthians 1:8-10

YOUR BAPTISM is the symbol of all 3 dimensions!

Jesus: “If anyone is ashamed to identify with me and my words, I will be ashamed of that person when I come in my glory with all the holy angels.”

Luke 9:26

“Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you’ll receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”

Acts 2:38

“When we are baptized, we are buried with Christ and share his death. So, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the wonderful power of the Father, we also can live a new life!”

Romans 6:4

EASTER PRAYER

Dear Jesus, I want to enjoy the full benefit of your death and resurrection for me. Thank you for what you did. I accept the proof that you are the Son of God. And I accept your promise of forgiveness and eternal life because you are the only one who paid for my sins. You deserve to be the Lord of my life. I need your power – the power of the resurrection in my life on a daily basis. I want to get to know you and learn how to rely on your power, so I can live the better life, the life I was meant to live. Please come into my life and change me.

In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.