

Mar 27, 2016



# Oaks Early Risers Bible Class

The Oaks  
Baptist Church  
Grand Prairie, Texas

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**FOOD FOR THOUGHT**

**THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:**  
The resurrection is the foundation of our faith

**POEM FOR THE WEEK:**  
Yes, Christ the Lord is risen,  
Has come forth from the grave;  
He breaks the chains of death for you  
And now has power to save.  
—Woodruff

**SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK:**  
*Jesus said to her, I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live*  
(John 11:25 NKJV)

*(from "Our Daily Bread", Apr 25, 2011)*

Series: The Gift of Faith

UNIT: Restorative Faith

NEXT WEEK

Amazing Faith  
(Luke 7:1-10)

## Resurrection Faith

Mark 16:1-8

### Aim and Application of the Lesson

The lesson reviews the facts of **Resurrection Faith**. The **study's aim** is to understand the centrality of the resurrection in our Christian faith. The **study's application** is to develop greater confidence in our salvation because of the resurrected Jesus Christ.

*(Adapted from the Bible Expositor and Illuminator Commentary)*

### Lesson Introduction and Background

The resurrection of Jesus is a singular event in history. It is in a category that consists of just that one item. It is distinct from other resurrections in the Bible, such as the raisings of the Shunammite woman's son (2 Kings 4:32-37), the son of the widow of Nain (Luke 7:11-15), the daughter of Jairus (Luke 8:49-56), and Lazarus (John 11:38-44). Those resuscitations were instances of temporary restoration of physical life by the reunion of soul and body—temporary because all those people died again later. The resurrection of Jesus, by contrast, is permanent. That permanence is attested by Jesus himself: "I am the Living One; I was dead, and now look, I am alive for ever and ever!" (Revelation 1:18a). That permanence has vital implications. Death is God's penalty for sin (Genesis 2:16, 17; Romans 5:12), but now the risen Jesus holds "the keys of death and Hades" (Revelation 1:18b). Another characteristic that sets Jesus' resurrection apart from the others noted above is that Jesus' body was transformed, not merely resuscitated. After his resurrection, he appeared and disappeared in ways he had not done previously (Luke 24:31, 36, 51; John 20:19, 26), although he still had a physical body that could be touched (Luke 24:37-43; John 20:27). The transformation of Jesus' body prefigures the transformation to come of those who belong to him when we are raised on the last day (1 Corinthians 15:42-57; compare Philippians 3:21, below). The lost also will undergo a transformation, though theirs will be in preparation for eternal death rather than eternal life (Daniel 12:2). From our vantage point some 2,000 years later, the open, empty tomb is the universal image of Christ's victory over death. The women who found the tomb to be open on that first Lord's Day morning had prepared themselves to be confronted with death. Instead, they were confronted with the announcement of life. The reality of death confronts all, and we make preparations for it. We help friends and family members in funeral planning. We purchase cemetery plots. We acknowledge our own forthcoming deaths by writing wills. But the best preparation is to let our thoughts dwell on the life that is to follow: resurrection life. Jesus has promised that what was accomplished in him on that third day will also be accomplished in us when he returns. The power of life over death that he demonstrated for himself is the same power that will instantly and forever transform us. As Paul joyfully proclaimed, Christ "who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body" (Philippians 3:21). Jesus is Lord over death, having conquered it. That makes him Lord over eternal life—our eternal life. Therefore as we prepare for death, we keep in mind that "the last enemy to be destroyed is death" (1 Corinthians 15:26). Death is our enemy, but it is ultimately a defeated enemy. When Jesus Christ returns (and every day brings us closer), we all will be changed. In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, death will be no more. Then we will walk where death can never again rip us asunder, neither soul from body nor one from another. The women on that first Lord's Day ran in fear from the empty tomb; our task today is to run in joy with the message of the empty tomb. May we ever proclaim Christ's victory over his death; may we never lose sight of the fact that his victory is ours as well—for eternity.

*(Adapted from the Bible Expositor and Illuminator Commentary)*

## NOTES AND CROSS-REFERENCES

### **FAITH THROUGH ANTICIPATION (MARK 16:1-5)**

#### *Anticipation of the anointing (1-2)*

Anointing that comes from God pouring out His Spirit (Joel 2:28-29)

Anointing from the Holy Spirit (1 John 2:20)

Anointing that teaches all things (1 John 2:27)

Anointing that saves (Ps 20:6)

Anointing that empowers to stand firm (2 Cor 1:21-22)

Anointing that opens spiritual eyes (Rev 3:18)

#### *Anticipation of removing obstacles (3-4)*

God makes the way of the righteous smooth (Isa 26:7)

God removes obstacles through guidance (Isa 42:16)

God removes obstacles by going before His anointed (Isa 45:1-3)

God removes obstacles through His rod and staff (Ps 23:2-4)

#### *Anticipation of angelic messages (5)*

Messages that are binding (Heb 2:2-3)

Messages that open doors (Acts 5:18-20)

Messages that brings saving information (Acts 11:13-14)

Messages that are encouraging (Acts 13:15)

Messages that are heard through the word of God (Rom 10:17)

Messages that are consistent about loving one another (1 John 3:11)

### **FAITH IN THE RESURRECTION (MARK 16:6-8)**

#### *Resurrection assurance (6)*

Assurance that is based on Scripture (1 Cor 15:3-4)

Assurance through being united with Jesus (Rom 6:5)

Assurance through preaching (1 Cor 15:12-14)

Assurance through a new birth and living hope (1 Peter 1:3-4)

Assurance through baptism (1 Peter 3:17-21)

#### *Seeking a resurrected Jesus (7)*

A resurrected Jesus who was seen for many days by those who traveled with Him (Acts 13:28-31)

A resurrected Jesus that appeared to more than five hundred people (1 Cor 15:3-8)

A resurrected Jesus who will find us even when we don't seek Him (Rom 10:20)

A resurrected Jesus who rewards those who seek Him (Heb 11:6)

#### *Resurrection amazement (8)*

Amazed because of doubt (Luke 24:37-39)

Amazed through burning hearts (Luke 24:30-32)

Amazed that Jesus ate after resurrection (John 21:7-14)

Amazed that Jesus could come through locked doors (John 20:26-29)