

7 Easter Declarations Home Fellowship Groups

<u>Date</u>: April 5, 2015 <u>Scripture</u>: 1 Corinthians 15:14,15 Pastor Mike Jacobson

Icebreaker: What is the funniest animal you have ever seen?

<u>Question</u>? Do you have any comments, questions or thoughts concerning Sunday's sermon?

<u>Comment on the statement</u>: Far too few have moved beyond the cross to find the empty tomb and the real message of Easter.

Question? Read 1 Corinthians 15:14,15. Why is the resurrection so important to the Christian faith?

II. 7 Easter Declarations People Need to Hear

(Read the following 7 declarations and respond to the questions.)

A. The resurrection of Jesus Christ means He is still alive and among us today. (Matthew 28:20; Hebrews 13:5)

Question: Do you believe Jesus Christ is in this place, among us today?

B. The resurrection of Jesus Christ means that everything He said, every promise He gave, every claim He made, is good, stamped with Heaven's verification.

<u>Question</u>: Why does the resurrection give validity to everything Jesus ever said or did? Do you believe that Jesus is the only door to everything Heaven has to offer? **Hebrews 2:14-15**; 2 Timothy 1:10

C. The resurrection of Jesus Christ means that death is defeated and we need never fear the devil again.

<u>Question</u>: How people respond to the thought of dying? As a Christian how should we respond to the thought of dying? How should we prepare for death? What is on the "other side" for the Christ-follower? D. The resurrection of Jesus Christ means we may live boldly in this life, since death has lost its sting. I Corinthians 15:54-57

Question: What is the "sting of death?"

E. The resurrection of Jesus Christ means we have the best news on the planet and everyone needs to hear it.

Question: Have we conned ourselves into thinking that being nice to everyone is going to bring people to Jesus. People need to know why you are nice. Someone needs to tell them about Jesus. Why do words need to be spoken?

F. For all who are in Christ, from here on in—into eternity!—the news is all good. Any trouble along the way is just a speed bumps.

Question: Does knowing we will spend eternity with Jesus help Christians deal with the cares of life? What does it mean to have an eternal perspective? 2 Timothy 4:7-8

G. The Resurrection of Jesus should mean something to me today.

Question: Does the resurrection mean anything to you today? If so, what?

III. Easter - Preparation for Eternity

Discuss the following three reasons for believing that Jesus arose from the dead.

A. The Empty Tomb

- B. Multiple Witnesses (Acts 1:3; 1 Corinthians 15:3-6: 2 Peter 1:16)
- C. Changed Lives (John 20:19-20)

He is Risen - He is Risen Indeed

Prayer