

Title: Why the Resurrection Matters to You
Texts: 1 Corinthians 15.3-5, 51-52; 1 Thessalonians 4.16-18;
Matthew 24.21
Date: Easter Sunday, April 1, 2018
Speaker: Pastor Mark A. Swallow (mark@markaswallow.com)

For Further Study

(Please use on your own, with a friend, or in your small group.)

1. As you listened to this week's sermon and read the Scripture passages, what were you convicted about? What do you believe the Holy Spirit has said to you through the Word of God? Write this down.
2. Read the accounts of Jesus' resurrection from the dead in the following passages: Matthew 28.1-7, Mark 16.1-8, and Luke 24.1-12. As you read, take some notes. What do you notice that is similar in each account? What's different? Have you learned anything new? As you read, has the Holy Spirit convicted you of something in these gospels? If so, what?

If you are doing this study on your own, answer question 3.

If you are doing this study with friends or in a small group, answer question 4.

3. Read John 20.1-18 and focus your attention on Jesus. What does He do and what does He say? Then, re-read the same passage again. Now focus your attention on Mary Magdalene. How does she respond to Jesus? What does she say and what does she do?

How do you relate this to your own life?

4. Break your group into two teams. Have one team read John 20.1-18 and focus their attention on Jesus. Have the other team read John 20.1-18 and focus their attention on Mary Magdalene. Each team will focus on their character and ask what does He/she say? What does He/she do? Discuss this, and then come back together as one whole small group and discuss each other's answer. How do you relate this to your own lives? Is there something you learned in this passage that affects your small group?

Share what you are learning with other Christians and pray for one another.