



Pt. 8: Signs; The Most Important Miracle

The final moments of Jesus' ministry led up to the most important miracle he would show: his death and resurrection. Even though Jesus told his disciples that his death was coming, they couldn't wrap their minds around it: the Messiah wasn't supposed to die prematurely. Upon the first reports of his resurrection, it seemed to his disciples as unbelievable. Yet this dramatic event was the centerpiece of God's plan and became the foundation of his plan to restore the divide between him and all of humanity.

Bottom Line: Jesus came so that you may have eternal life through him.

Discussion Questions:

1. There is a saying, "seeing is believing". What is something that you would never have believed had you not witnessed it with your own eyes?
2. **Read Acts 26:8.** Paul was defending his belief in Jesus in front of King Agrippa. Knowing that the Jews believed God created the universe, he said to them, "Why do any of you consider it incredible that God raises the dead?" Do you find the miracle of someone being raised from the dead impossible? Why or why not?
3. Why do you think people are skeptical about the resurrection? What are some of the objections you have heard about the resurrection? Do you think these objections affect believers? If so, how?
4. **Read John 19:38-40.** Joseph was a disciple of Jesus during his ministry and Nicodemus was a believer but felt that he had to keep that hidden because he was a leader in the Sanhedrin. After the crucifixion though, they both hid their loyalty out of fear. Has there been a situation when you felt like you couldn't express your belief in Jesus? What kept you from expressing your beliefs?
5. **Read John 20:24-29.** In what ways can you identify with Thomas? Why is Jesus' statement in verse 29 significant for us today? As children, we believe what we are taught from our parents. At a point, however, we come to our own conclusions. What has helped you work through the historical reality of the resurrection of Jesus?
6. Jesus says in John 20:29, "Because you have seen me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe." How can you show your belief in Jesus to others this week?
7. What has been the most helpful thought/idea from the message this week? How has that thought/idea helped you?

*If time doesn't allow for you to discuss all of these questions, use only the ones you feel would be most helpful for your group.