

# 4Ws Resurrection Sunday

## NO REGRETS : BE INTENTIONAL

APRIL 4, 2021

### WORSHIP

Victory in Jesus,  
The Precious Cross,  
Crown Him With  
Many Crowns

### WELCOME

How did you spend  
the holidays (Holy  
Week)?

### WORD

#### READ IT!

**JOHN 11:17-27**  
(READ JOHN 11:1-45 FOR  
FULL CONTEXT)

So when Jesus came, He found that he had already been in the tomb four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, about fifteen stadia away; and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary, to console them about their brother. So then Martha, when she heard that Jesus was coming, went to meet Him, but Mary stayed in the house. Martha then said to Jesus, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died. Even now I know that whatever You ask of God, God will give You." Jesus \*said to her, "Your brother will rise from the dead." Martha said to Him, "I know that he will rise in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life; the one who believes in Me will live, even if he dies, and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die. Do you believe this?" She \*said to Him, "Yes, Lord; I have come to believe that You are the Christ, the Son of God, and He who comes into the world."

#### PARAPHRASE IT!

Restate the verses in your own words.

#### TALK ABOUT IT!

- What did you like about these verses?
- What did you learn about God?
- What did you learn about following Christ?
- How does the passage impact the way you view life and death?

#### POINT IT OUT!

The truth of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ is important and foundational in Christianity. Our faith will stand or fall depending on this amazing truth. **Romans 1:4** tells us, Jesus Christ "was declared the Son of God with power by the **resurrection from the dead...**" Is this something we can believe in?

Respected lawyers (Lord Darling, Simon Greenleaf, and Lee Strobel), who, despite their expertise and previous disbelief, have come to embrace the resurrection as TRUE. As Lee Strobel said, the resurrection is "... **the basis of Christian hope. It's the miracle of all miracles.**" If Jesus did not rise again from the dead, then everything we are hoping for is useless. Even our faith is useless!

We have a "**living hope**" (**1 Peter 1:3**). It is a certainty, guaranteed by God Himself, because Jesus died and rose again from the dead. Jesus was able to comfort the sisters, Mary and Martha, with this amazing truth amidst their deep sorrow and regret at the passing of their brother Lazarus. Jesus said, "**I am the resurrection and the life**". No problem is so big and no situation so helpless and hopeless in Jesus Christ. The best is yet to come, provided that we know who Jesus is. If Jesus rose from the dead, then all His claims and promises are true! We can put our hope in Him because He will never disappoint.

How do we live a life of no regrets? **BE INTENTIONAL** through the **K.I.S. Principle**:

#### 1. KNOW THE TRUTH

Destination is never determined by intention, but by the right direction. Be intentional in knowing the truth. Remember the illustration of airplanes that travel with deviation of at least 2 degrees from the original route will end up miles away from its true destination!

The Bible reminds us that we must understand the truth. Paul in **1 Corinthians 4:1-2**, describes the role of a Christian: **SERVANTS (Gk. HUPERETES)**, the lowest ranking row men of a boat/ship and **STEWARDS (Gk. OIKONOMOS)**, a manager responsible for the duties assigned to him by the master-owner. We are managers of the **mysteries of God**—spiritual truths that were previously hidden but now is revealed. **Ephesians 3:2-7** speaks about the privilege that we now have as "**fellow heirs and members**" of the gospel. It is a privilege indeed to be entrusted this great truth and we must be faithful stewards of God's truth.

This truth includes LIFE and DEATH. In **1 Thessalonians 4:13**, Paul uses the term **SLEEP (Gk. KOIMAO)** for death. He encouraged the Thessalonian believers not to grieve as the rest of those who do not have this hope. Believers do get sad if loved ones who are in Christ pass away, but in the midst of sadness, there is peace and joy knowing that they are now with the Lord.



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This same word was used by Jesus to describe what happened to Lazarus in **John 11:11-14**. Jesus received the news that Lazarus was sick. Mary and Martha sent messengers to ask Jesus to come because **“he whom You love is sick”**. When Jesus heard that Lazarus was sick, He said in **v.4** – **“This sickness is not to end in death, but for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified by it.”** In **v.7**, they finally visited Lazarus who has been in the tomb for 4 days already. Even so, Jesus was not caught by surprise. Jesus expressed that He is **“the resurrection and the life”** and that **“everyone who believes in Me will never die”** (**vv. 25-26**).

When finally Jesus visited the tomb, he asked Martha to have the stone removed and with hesitation Martha said **“there will be a stench”** (**v.39**) but Jesus reminded them to **BELIEVE**. It was evident that Martha and the others knew certain truths about Jesus, but have not internalized them.

### 2. INTERNALIZE THE TRUTH

**“Did I not say to you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?”** (**v.40**) is a reminder that Jesus wants us to believe in the heart, and then we will see the glory of God. For many of us, our faith is “to see is to believe” but when you believe something from the heart, God is saying, **“you believe, and then you will see...”** How do you know you believe from the heart? You display **OBEDIENCE**. Jesus introduced Himself so well and was even willing to show His power when he called Lazarus out of the tomb (**v.43**). This meant that **Jesus is Lord and is sovereign over life and death!** There is no greater power demonstrated than giving life to the dead and that was made possible by our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. In **1 Thessalonians 4:14**, the basis of our hope is that because Jesus died and rose again, believers also have access to this amazing promise. Furthermore, the Bible tells us that when we die, our souls are immediately in the presence of God, but our physical bodies are asleep. When Jesus comes again, your soul and your physical body will be placed together again—a glorious moment described in **1 Corinthians 15:51-53!** This fills us with **HOPE** that our mortal bodies will put on immortality. That’s why it is so important that we must know the truth, we must internalize the truth and we must share the truth.

### 3. SHARE THE TRUTH

Remember the story of the rich man in **Luke 16**? He spent his life on earth for his own pleasure without realizing that after death, his final destination was a place of unending anguish (**v.24**). Even with his regrets, he desired to reach out to his relatives (but that was not possible anymore) or even send somebody else to warn them (**vv.27-28**). The greatest regret will be not preparing your soul for eternity – for the inevitable – which is death, after which we face an accounting with God. While on earth, Jesus offers us the choice of whether we live for Him or apart from Him in this world; our decision will determine our eternal destiny—with Him in eternity or an eternity without Him in torment. The second greatest regret will be if you know the truth and you didn’t share it with others. In **Luke 24:44-48**, Jesus reminded His followers of their role as **WITNESSES**. If this is great news, this is meant to be shared with others. What’s so great about this news? **2 Corinthians 5:17** reminds us that we are **“new creatures”**, renewed by God’s grace because of the death and resurrection of Christ. We must therefore be **“steadfast and immovable”** (**1 Corinthians 15:58**) living a life of **INTENTIONALITY** and doing our best to spread the truth we embrace in Christ Jesus—our Resurrected King!

### WORKS

#### APPLY IT!

Based on this lesson on **NO REGRETS: BE INTENTIONAL**, write down your action point to apply what you learned. Make it your “I will...” statement and follow the **S.M.A.R.T.** guideline to come up with a do-able action point.

- Simple
- Measurable
- Appropriate
- Realistic
- Time-bound

“I will \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_”

#### SHARE IT!

Who will you share these truths to this week?

#### PRAY CARE SHARE IN ACTION

Pray for conviction of hearts and minds to live an intentional life for the Lord. Send a Bible verse or encouraging message or extend material help to someone who is going through a difficult time. Share to people who fear death the hope and assurance that Jesus conquered death—He rose from the grave. He lives and so shall anyone who believes in Him.

### WEEKLY

### PRAYER POINTS

#### I. Thanksgiving

- Worship God for who He is, what He has done, and what He will do in our lives

#### II. Country and the World

- Upright and moral governance of Public Servants a God-centered Philippines
- Repentance and Salvation
- Wisdom and timely, effective response to the pandemic

#### III. Church

- That CCF Members would honor and love God and make disciples
- Elders, Pastors, Leaders, and Families
- Ministries and Churches worldwide

#### IV. CCF Facilities

- Worship and Training Center
- Prayer Mountain

#### V. Personal Concerns

- Deeper intimate relationship with God
- Righteous living
- Salvation of family and friends



52 Week Scripture

Let a man regard us in this manner, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God.

<sup>2</sup> In this case, moreover, it is required of stewards that one be found trustworthy.

1 Corinthians 4:1-2

