

### Getting To Know You

1. What is your view/understanding of miracles? Explain.
2. Timothy Keller said, "If Jesus rose from the dead, then you have to accept all that he said; if he didn't rise from the dead, then why worry about any of what he said? The issue on which everything hangs is not whether or not you like his teaching but whether or not he rose from the dead." Thoughts? Agree? Disagree?
3. Lee Strobel said, "In short, I didn't become a Christian because God promised I would have an even happier life than I had as an atheist. He never promised any such thing. Indeed, following him would inevitably bring divine demotions in the eyes of the world. Rather, I became a Christian because the evidence was so compelling that Jesus really is the one-and-only Son of God who proved his divinity by rising from the dead. That meant following him was the most rational and logical step I could possibly take." Thoughts? Agree? Disagree?
4. Billy Graham said, "God proved His love on the Cross. When Christ hung, and bled, and died, it was God saying to the world, 'I love you.'" Thoughts? Agree? Disagree?
5. Looking back at your notes from this week's sermon, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

### Digging Deeper

1. 1 Peter 1:3 says, "he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead". If there is no resurrection, would there be any hope? How important is the resurrection of Jesus? Explain.

What is the greatest miracle of all time? Explain.

2. In John 20:1-18, Mary Magdalene goes to the tomb of Jesus. Why was she going? What does she find when she gets there? What does she think has happened? What does she do? What is her emotional state? Did she understand the resurrection initially?

What does Jesus do for her? What does Jesus have to do in order for her to recognize it is Him? What does He tell her? What is she supposed to do?

What hope do we have as believers that others do not? How does Jesus conquering sin and death give you hope? Do we have to weep as those that have no hope? Explain.

3. In John 20:19, the disciples are in hiding behind locked doors, what are they worried or afraid of? Who are they hiding from? What does Jesus do? What does He say? How is peace the antithesis of fear, anxiety, or worry? How does Jesus meet them where they are at and speak into them, something only He can? Explain.

In your life right now, are you experiencing peace or worry? What is Jesus offering you? How are you encouraged, knowing the God of the universe indwells you? What are the implications? What does 1 John 4:4 say? How does this encourage you? How does it give you peace?

4. Thomas wasn't with the other disciples behind locked door when Jesus reveals Himself to them. What does Thomas say when the disciples tell him about it (John 20:24-25)? Why does Thomas doubt? What does Jesus say to Thomas when He sees him? How does, not only Jesus resurrecting from the dead, but knowing Thomas' thoughts and words demonstrate Jesus' divinity? How does Jesus meet Thomas where he is at? What does Jesus say to him after He lets Thomas see and touch His pieced side?

If you were Thomas, how would you have responded? Explain. Are there any areas of your life that you are doubting? Questioning? What is Jesus' offer to you? How does Jesus remove doubt, worry, anxiety?

5. In John 21, Jesus again reveals Himself to the disciples. What are they doing? Why are they doing it? What does Jesus do for Peter? What had Peter done? Where is Peter at spiritually? How does Jesus restore him? Explain.

Have you ever been in denial? Have you ever felt you sinned away your discipleship? What does God's word have to say? Who are you believing when you think like this? How is Jesus offering you restoration today?

#### Growing Closer

1. Who is someone you shared the gospel with this week?
2. What have you been reading in your quiet times?
3. What has God been teaching you?

#### When Pigs Fly

##### The Miracle of the Resurrection

1 Peter 1:3-4

The resurrection of Jesus is perhaps the greatest miracle of all time and according to Peter it is our source of hope in what is otherwise a broken and hopeless world.

There is hope for those who...

I. Weep in Death (Mary Magdalene at the tomb)

II. Worry in Dismay (sequestered disciples after the death of Jesus)

III. Wonder in Doubt (Thomas)

IV. Walk in Denial (Simon Peter)