

The Case for the Resurrection



BIG IDEA

The resurrection of Jesus isn't just a belief, it's a historically grounded reality that invites us into an informed, confident faith.



ICE BREAKER

What's a conspiracy theory or debated topic you've heard that made you wonder, "What's the deal with that?"



MAIN POINTS

- The resurrection is the foundation of Christianity, if it didn't happen, nothing else matters; if it did, it changes everything
 - Faith in Jesus doesn't have to be blind, it can be informed and rooted in evidence
 - The case for the resurrection can be understood through four key evidence
- 1. Execution** - Jesus' death by crucifixion is one of the most agreed-upon facts in ancient history, confirmed by multiple sources (Christian, secular, and atheist)
 - 2. Early** - The resurrection message wasn't a legend developed over time, it was recorded and circulated within years (even months) of the event
 - 3. Empty** - The tomb was empty, and even Jesus' opponents didn't deny it, they tried to explain it
 - 4. Eyewitnesses** - Hundreds of people claimed to see Jesus alive, and their lives were radically transformed as a result
- When you look at all the evidence together, the most reasonable explanation is that the resurrection actually happened
 - The resurrection moves faith from **blind belief** to **informed trust**



DISCUSS

1. What stood out to you most from this week's message?
2. Before this message, how would you have answered: "How do you know the resurrection is true?"
3. Which of the four "E's" (Execution, Early, Empty, Eyewitnesses) impacted you the most? Why?
4. What's the difference between blind faith and informed faith?
5. What doubts or questions do you still wrestle with when it comes to faith?
6. How does believing the resurrection is true change the way you live your everyday life?



NEXT STEP

Take one step this week based on where you are:

- **If you believe** → Live with confidence in your faith and be ready to share why
- **If you're new to faith** → Take a step toward Jesus (tell someone, explore baptism, keep learning)
- **If you have doubts** → Don't ignore them, wrestle with them and keep seeking truth
Ask yourself:

"Do I trust my doubts more, or do I trust the evidence for Jesus?"





SCRIPTURE

- 1 Corinthians 15:3–5
- 1 Corinthians 15:14



**NEXT WEEK
SNEAK PEEK**

Join us as we continue the series “*What’s the Deal With?*” and explore how we can trust the Bible, bring your questions and your Bible!

Questions or Feedback? Email Groups@CentralAZ.com