

Resurrection Power

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SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Based on the sermon by Pastor Mirek Hufton

1. SERMON RECAP

This Easter message reminds us that resurrection power is the greatest force in the universe -- greater than physical strength, horsepower, or even atomic energy -- because only God can take what is dead and make it fully alive again. Pastor Mirek walked us through what Jesus actually accomplished on the cross and in hell: paying the full penalty for our sin, stripping Satan of his authority over humanity, and rising victorious as the conquering man who defeated death, hell, and the grave. Because Jesus rose as a man, every person who receives Him is invited into that same resurrection life -- set free from sin's grip and the fear of death forever.

2. KEY SCRIPTURE

Ephesians 1:19-20 (NKJV)

"...and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places."

3. ICE BREAKER

Think of the most powerful thing you've ever witnessed in person -- a thunderstorm, a rocket launch, a massive engine, anything at all. What was it, and what did it feel like to be standing near that kind of power?

4. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Laying the Foundation

Pastor Mirek listed several kinds of power -- physical strength, horsepower, thrust, atomic energy -- and then said resurrection power surpasses them all. In your own words, what makes resurrection power uniquely different from every other kind of power? Why does it matter that a man accomplished it?

> "For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead." -- 1 Corinthians 15:21

2. Getting Honest About the Veil

Pastor Mirek described a spiritual veil that keeps people from truly seeing who Jesus is and what He has done. Have you ever experienced a moment when that veil began to lift for you -- when the gospel stopped being just information and became real and personal? What was happening in your life at that time?

3. The Cross and the Lamb

John the Baptist declared Jesus "the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world" (John 1:29). Pastor Mirek said the cross is where Jesus became our substitute -- bearing our sin so that its penalty would fall on Him instead of us. How does understanding Jesus as your substitute -- not just your example or teacher -- change the way you relate to Him day to day?

4. Facing the Reality of Death

Hebrews 2:14 tells us Jesus took on flesh and blood specifically so that "through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil." Pastor Mirek pointed out that the fear of death keeps people in bondage their whole lives. Do you think most people -- even churchgoers -- really live free from that fear? What does it practically look like to live as someone who has "passed from death to life"?

5. Resurrection in Everyday Life

Pastor Mirek said Jesus is in the resurrection business -- marriages, prodigal children, broken bodies, cold hearts toward God. Where in your own life, or in the life of someone you love, do you most need to believe that resurrection power is still at work right now? What makes it hard to trust that in that specific situation?

6. Authority We Often Forget

Pastor Mirek made the bold statement that through Jesus, we who were once slaves of Satan have become his masters -- because the same resurrection power that conquered hell now lives inside every believer. Does that feel true in your daily experience? What gets in the way of walking in that kind of authority, and what might change if you genuinely believed it?

5. APPLICATION CHALLENGE

This week, identify one area of your life where you have accepted "death" as the final word.

Maybe it's a relationship you've written off, a habit you believe will never change, a dream you buried, or a family member you've stopped praying for with real faith. Write it down on a piece of paper. Then, every morning for the next seven days, read Ephesians 1:19-20 out loud over that situation and pray this simple prayer: "Jesus, You are the resurrection and the life. I bring this before You and I refuse to stop believing You can make it live again." Come back next week ready to share what shifted -- even if it was just something inside you.

6. PRAYER POINTS

- Pray for eyes to be opened. Ask God to lift the spiritual veil off specific people in your lives -- friends, family members, coworkers -- who have never truly seen who Jesus is. Name them out loud if you feel comfortable doing so.
 - Pray for resurrection in dead places. Bring before God the situations your group named in Question 5. Ask Him to move in those places with the same power that raised Jesus from the dead -- and ask Him to grow your faith to keep believing while you wait.
 - Pray for boldness to share the good news. Pastor Mirek reminded us that Jesus commissioned us to go and unlock prison doors for other people. Ask God to give your group specific opportunities this week to share the hope of the resurrection -- and the courage to take them.
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7. MEMORY VERSE

John 11:25 (NKJV)

"Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live.'"

Leader's Tip: Don't rush through the discussion questions -- it's perfectly fine to spend most of your time on just two or three of them if the conversation is genuine and going deep. The goal isn't to cover everything; it's to help people leave having encountered the living Jesus, not just talked about Him.