

RESURRECTION LIFE
LAUNCHES THE LIVING CHURCH
(ACTS 1-2)
APRIL 5, 2026



The resurrection of Jesus did not end with an empty tomb;
it launched a living, Spirit-empowered Church

Without the resurrection, there would be no Church, no gospel mission,
no hope of salvation, no abundant life: Dead not Alive

Since Jesus was resurrected from the dead, we who are in Jesus are ALIVE not dead!

“The first fact in the history of Christendom is a number of people who say they have seen the resurrection”— C.S. Lewis, Miracles, Chapter 14

1. The Resurrection Confirms the Reality of Jesus’ victory

- Christianity is rooted in historical, spiritual reality; it is not myth or philosophy
- Jesus appeared to over 500 witnesses (I Corinthians 15:6), invited Thomas to touch His wounds (John 20:27), and declared to be the Son of God (Romans 1:4)
- Jesus’ victory empowers His followers to change the world
- Resurrection power produces powerful witnesses...even TODAY
- Jerusalem changed (Peter), the known world (Paul), William Carey (father of modern missions), Hudson Taylor (China), and YOU (your community)

2. The Resurrection Empowers the Church through Holy Spirit

- The Church is Indwelt by Holy Spirit not just Impacted by Holy Spirit
- The Church is Affected by Holy Spirit and Effects the World
- Bold Communication of the Gospel: A Watered-down Gospel does not set the captive free, only deceives him/her into complacency
- Deep Conviction of Sin: Holy Spirit cannot fully indwell a vessel that is partially clean
- Massive Conversion by Salvation: True disciples of Jesus draw the thirsty to everlasting waters and drowns the self-righteous in their own pride

3. The Effects of the Resurrection are Evidenced through the Church

- Four Practices of a Healthy, Spirit-filled, ALIVE Church
- Biblical Teaching/Preaching, Fellowship (Breaking of bread), Unity (all things in common), Prayer

Are you living in resurrection power? Are you participating in Jesus’ mission?

How is the world affected by your life and testimony? It’s time to communicate the Gospel so others may live abundantly in Jesus!

1. Read Matthew 28; Mark 16; Luke 24; John 20-21

How would the Bible be changed if there was no resurrection? The fact that all four gospels cover the resurrection is significant, why? What does the resurrection mean to you?

2. Read Acts 1:3; I Corinthians 15:12-19; Romans 10:9; I Peter 1:3

Why is the resurrection essential to the Christian faith? How does the reality of Jesus' resurrection strengthen your confidence in the gospel and your passion to share it?

3. Read Acts 1:8; Matthew 28:18-20; Isaiah 49:6; Revelation 7:9

What is the scope or extent of your calling to spread the gospel? What is your Jerusalem? Judea? Samaria? End of the Earth? How can you work with other believers to share the gospel globally?

4. Read Acts 2:1-4; Romans 8:11; Galatians 5:22-23; 1 Corinthians 12:4-11

How does Holy Spirit empower believers for ministry? What evidence of the Spirit's work do you see in your life? What is an area that the Spirit may be calling you to trust Him more and go deeper in your walk with Him?

5. Read Acts 2:42-47; Hebrews 10:24-25; Colossians 3:16; 1 Timothy 4:13

What were the essential practices of the early Church? How did Biblical truth get communicated and put into action? Which practice is a strength of the Church today? A weakness?

6. Read Romans 6:4; Colossians 3:1-4; Galatians 2:20; 2 Corinthians 5:17

How should the resurrection shape a believer's daily life? What's one thing you can do to live in the resurrection power of the early church?