

5. Why would knowing and reflecting on God's grace toward us in light of God's power, holiness, and justice help you to experience greater joy in your daily life?

6. How do Jesus' words in verse 10 encourage your heart?

7. Looking back over this week's sermon and study, what one thing is most important for you to remember and apply?

Missional Application

God calls us to go and tell others the good news of Christ's victory over sin and death, calling people to trust in Jesus and receive resurrection life.

Christ Connection

On Easter Sunday, God vindicated his Son's perfect sacrifice by raising him from the dead and beginning the new creation he had long promised his people. Through faith, we are united to Christ, we are part of his new creation, and we share in the promise of being resurrected in his likeness. Sin's curse has been removed, death has been defeated, and we are assured of everlasting life with God.

SERMON APPLICATION GUIDE

Jesus the Savior (Part 3)

"Why There's Light at the End of the Tunnel"

Matthew 28:1-15

The resurrection is why there is light at the end of the tunnel.

Why There's Light at the End of the Tunnel

In the resurrection we can move from the darkness of...

1. ...Death to Life

Why was the stone rolled away?

Christianity is not about escaping the world; it's about redeeming the world.

2. ...Fear to Joy

God has an interesting way of moving us from fear to joy. It begins with terror!

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. (Job 28:28; Psalm 111:10; Proverbs 1:7; 9:10; 15:33; Isaiah 11:2; 33:6; Micah 6:9)

If you've tamed God in your understanding of him, you won't be wise.

God isn't satisfied with simply alleviating our fears, he wants us to experience joy.

Like 2: ⁸ And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹ An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. ¹¹ Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

What keeps us from experiencing the joy of the Lord?

One of the primary ways we can cultivate joy is to know and reflect on God's grace toward us in light of God's power, holiness, and justice.

3. ...Failure to Forgiveness

Romans 8: ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹ neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Family Discussion Questions

1. Allow each person in your family to describe the time that they first believed in the truth of Jesus' resurrection.
2. How can our family encourage others who fear death through the truth of the resurrection?
3. How can our family pursue God's mission of sharing the gospel with others?

Personal Reflection & Small Group Questions

Please complete this study on your own, then bring it to your small group for discussion.

1. Looking back over your notes from this week's sermon, what particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?
2. When have you found yourself looking for light at the end of the tunnel?
3. Read Matthew 28:1-15. Why was the stone rolled away?
4. What difference does it make to you, in your daily life, to know that Christianity is not about escaping the world but about redeeming it?