

# Easter 2017

## "Rise"

desert breeze  
community church



Saturday & Sunday, February 20/21, 2017

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Jesus' death, burial and resurrection not only give us a model but also a means to get through days of pain and perplexity and RISE into days of JOY!

**1Pet1:3** Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!

According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

**1Pet2:21** For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps.

**Phil3:10** That I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death.

### FRIDAY: THE DAY OF PAIN

**Mark 14:32-35**

#### What should we do in days of pain?

- 1) Reach out to God's presence. V36
- 2) Reach out to a few close friends. V34

The Gethsemane Model Prayer: (3 things to pray when in pain)

- ✓ Affirm God's Love, Wisdom & Power. V36a "Abba, Father, all things are possible for you."
- ✓ Ask boldly. V36b "Remove this cup from me."
- ✓ Surrender completely. v36c "Yet not what I will, but what you will."

**Hebrews 2:18** Because he himself has gone through suffering and testing, he is able to help us when we are being tested. (NLT)

### SATURDAY: THE DAY OF PERPLEXITY

**Mark 14:27, 50**

#### How to get through days of perplexity?

- 1) Remember God's promises. (Ps119:50)
- 2) Walk by faith and not by feelings. (2Cor5:7; Heb11:1)  
"Faith is the art of holding onto things your reason as once accepted in spite of your changing moods."—C.S. Lewis
- 3) Promises are only as good as the one who makes them. (Rom8:31-32)

### SUNDAY: THE DAY OF JOY

**John 11:25-26**

#### How Do I Get To The Days of Joy?

- 1) Rely on God's power. (Rom8:11; Eph1:19-20)
- 2) Joy: A buoyancy that comes from the pleasures in the eternal privileges we have in the person & work of Jesus Christ. (1Pet1:8)
- 3) By grace through faith in Christ... (Eph2:8-9)
  - ✓ My past sins are forgiven, (Rom8:1)
  - ✓ My present suffering can be overcome and (Jn16:33; Rom8:28)
  - ✓ My future in heaven is secure. (John14:1-3; Phil1:23)

**Rom 10:9-10** If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup> For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.

#### Growing Notes

- 1) What's your fondest memory of Easter? Why do you think many people will attend church on Easter & Christmas even though they may not attend throughout the year?
- 2) Read the thesis statement and the 1<sup>st</sup> three verses in the intro of this sermon. What stands out to you? What do we learn from these verses?
- 3) Read Mark 14:32-35. What should we do with days of pain? What three things should we pray when we are in pain? Read Mark 14:27, 50. What do you think the disciples were feeling? Have you ever felt like that? What should we do to get through days of perplexity? How is Romans 8:31-32 a promise that not only builds trust but also covers all of our problems?
- 4) Read John 11:25-26. To rely on God's power means by grace through faith in Christ we can experience and enjoy what three eternal privileges? What is joy? How do these eternal privileges produce joy in us? What is God speaking to you? Pray.