

Series -

Date/s -

1 April 2018

Topic - Easter Service

Speaker/s -

Pastor Ken Teo

**Welcome** [15 min]

You may want to look up the following websites for *icebreakers* suitable for your cell.

[www.thesource4ym.com/games/](http://www.thesource4ym.com/games/)

[www.christianitytoday.com/smallgroups/articles/icebreakersbeyond.html](http://www.christianitytoday.com/smallgroups/articles/icebreakersbeyond.html) < go to LEAD, click on ICEBREAKERS >

**Worship** [15 min]

You may select songs like "Our God", "Reckless Love", "Till I See You" or "All Hail King Jesus".

**Spiritual Objectives**

At the end of the cell discussion, cell members will:

1. Reflect on how we are recipients of the Good News, and are set apart to live for Jesus.
2. Share Jesus with our loved ones who have yet to know Him.

**Word** [45 min]

The resurrection is the cornerstone of the Christian faith and our assurance of life beyond the grave. The effectiveness of our Lord's entire ministry hung upon His ability to rise from the grave (1 Cor 15:14,17). It is essential that men must believe in order to be saved – Romans 10:9. Paul also shared that the gospel is **the power of God for salvation** to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek (Rom 1:16). Paul also highlighted the importance of Jesus' resurrection, and His appearance to His disciples and many other people after His finished work on the Cross (1 Cor 15:3-7).

The death and resurrection of Jesus Christ is not only as a theoretical and historical issue. It has power and transformational impact – and it is available for all of us today.

Pastor Ken spoke about what Paul wrote in Philippians 3:10 "I may know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death;"

**1) That I may know Him: -**

- **Is to be reconciled and saved**

I want to know Him as the way and the truth and the life, so we can be reconciled with God the Father. (John 14:6; Rom 10:9; Rom 8:15-17)

- **Is to be set free**

When we know Jesus the truth, and the truth will set you free. (John 8:32; Col 2:12-15)

- **Is to have eternal life**

Now this is eternal life: that they know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom You have sent. (John 17:3; Acts 4:10,12)

**2) And the power of His resurrection.**

- **The power to give Life**

And if the Spirit of Him Who raised up Jesus from the dead dwells in you, then He Who raised up Christ Jesus from the dead will also **restore to life your mortal** (short-lived, perishable) bodies through His Spirit Who dwells in you. (Rom 8:11 AMPC)

We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as **Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.** (Rom 6:4-5; Rom 6:8-10)

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In His great mercy He **has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection** of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you. (1 Pet 2-3 NIV)

- **The power to heal**

then know this, you and all the people of Israel: **It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed.** (Acts 4:10)

- **The power to live godly life**

His **divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness**, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence, by which he has granted to us His precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire. (2 Pet 1:3-4)

Pastor Ken shared that the last enemy to be destroyed is death.

Paul understood “the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death. (Rom 6:5-10) The last enemy to be destroyed is death! (1 Cor 15:26; 53-57)

Like Jesus, the first fruit, one day we will have the same glorified body and death is fully destroyed! (1 Cor 15:20) For this perishable must put on the imperishable, and this mortal must put on immortality (1 Cor 15:53) “For while we are in this tent (body), we groan and are burdened, because we do not wish to be unclothed but **to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling**, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life.” (2 Cor 5:4)

Let us rejoice with a living Hope and not live in fear! Do not be afraid! Jesus is the First and the Last. He is the Living One who was dead and now He is alive for ever and ever! **Jesus Christ hold the keys of death and Hades.** (Rev 1:18)

### Discussion Questions

1. **Share with the cell a reflection or lesson learnt about God / the Christian walk as you went through this season of Lent till Easter Sunday.** [10 min]

**Leader's Notes:** *An ice-breaking question for members to share about a lesson they learnt during this period leading up to Easter. Members could share about what they learnt from various services or from their own devotion. As a recap, in the lead up to Easter, the sermon messages preached covered “Good Friday – the day God died”, “Palm Sunday – the triumphal entry”, “The God who suffers” and “(Jesus), The new arrival.”*

2. **What does the work on the Cross mean for you?** [15 min]

**Leader's Notes:** *This is a relate question. We can know Christ because of the finished work on the cross – we are reconciled and saved, we are set free and we have eternal life. Leaders may wish to get members to reflect on what the work on the Cross has accomplished for them – are there lies they need to let go of, are there sins they have not forgiven themselves for, are there things (other than Christ) they feel that they are slaves to, are they living life in light of eternity?*

*Leaders can get members to read the passage leading up to Jesus' crucifixion to remember what the work on the Cross for our sins – here is a link that leaders can refer to:*

<https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/it-is-finished-good-friday> and

<https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/satan-disarmed-sin-forgiven-soul-alive>

As a summary, the main points are:

- a. Jesus bears our sins in His body (1 Pet 2:24)
- b. Jesus became sin (2 Cor 5:21)
- c. God the Father's full wrath was upon Jesus and He became cursed for our sake (Gal 3:13)
- d. Jesus died for the unrighteous that He might bring us to God (1 Pet 3:18)
- e. Jesus' love for us (John 15:13)
- f. Jesus obeyed God (Heb 5:8)
- g. Jesus humbled Himself to die on the Cross (Phi 2:8).

Members are encouraged to relate through their personal experiences how one or more of the points mean to them.

3. **Reflect on the resurrection power of Christ and share with each other what truths have encouraged you and what struggles you have as you continue to live the Christian faith.** [10 min]

**Leader's Notes:** This is a reflect question. The power of Jesus' resurrection gives us life, healing and the power to live a godly life. This is a question for members to share with each other on what encourages or hinders them in the Christian faith – are there times where we rely on our own strengths instead of his power? What hope does the resurrection of Christ bring for you?

Here are some articles that leaders can refer to: <https://www.desiringgod.org/messages/six-gifts-of-the-resurrection> and <http://ca.rzim.org/regional-blog/the-resurrection-changes-everything/> refer to <http://ca.rzim.org/regional-blog/incontext-magazine-2014/> for full article (pp32-39) and <https://bible.org/seriespage/11-true-righteousness-part-ii-study-contrasts-judaizers-and-paul-philippians-39-11>

John Piper shared the following gifts of the Resurrection:

- a. We are forgiven for our sins (1 Cor 15:3, Rom 4:25)
- b. Our faith is well-founded – Jesus is alive to be trusted (1 Cor 15:14, Gal 2:20)
- c. The Apostles preach what is true (John 14:6, 1 Cor 15:15)
- d. We are to be envied – we have an eternal reward promised by Jesus (2 Cor 4:17, 1 Cor 15:58)
- e. Those who have fallen asleep are alive – everlasting joy and life awaits all who believe in Christ (1 Cor 15:18).

4. **Share with the cell about an area of your life that you would like to commit to God for healing and restoration, or a loved one who has yet to know Jesus.** [10 min]

**Leader's Notes:** This is a response question. Leaders can encourage members to provide practical steps that they can commit to for the next one year. This is a time for members to share and pray for each other on these commitments.

### Works [10 min]

Let's pray:

1. Being eternally grateful to what Christ has done on the cross, we are more than willing to be fully committed to His cause, bearing His name & shining forth for everyone to see His glory.

## **Announcements**

### **1. Joining the Family**

Sat, 14 Apr | 1.30pm-4.30pm | Grace Chapel

Sign up at the Information Counter or online at [bit.ly/rlcjoiningthefamily](http://bit.ly/rlcjoiningthefamily) by Sun, 8 Apr. For more information, please contact Karen Koh at 65114139, or email her at [karenkoh@riverlife.org.sg](mailto:karenkoh@riverlife.org.sg).

### **2. Marriage Preparation Course**

Sat, 12 May | 10am-5pm & Sundays, 8, 15, 22 & 29 Apr & 6 May | 1.45pm-5pm

\$260 Per Couple | Classrooms 214/215, RiverLife Church

Register at the Information Counter by Sun, 8 Apr. For enquiries, please contact Christine Tan at [christinetan@riverlife.org.sg](mailto:christinetan@riverlife.org.sg) or 65114141

### **3. Precept Bible Study**

40-Min Study | Jesus: Listening for His Voice (Mark 7-13)

Course Dates: 24 Apr, 3, 15, 22, 31 May & 5 Jun (Weekly)

Course Material: \$11 (RiverLifer) | \$16 (Non-RiverLifer)

Registration closes Sun, 15 Apr.

For more details, visit [riverlife.org.sg/precept](http://riverlife.org.sg/precept). You may register online or at the Information Counter. For enquiries, please contact Karen Koh at [karenkoh@riverlife.org.sg](mailto:karenkoh@riverlife.org.sg) or 65114139.

#### **Church Vision Statement:**

“A vibrant family where sons and daughters mature and reveal the Father’s glory from generation to generation.”