

FIRM

FOUNDATION

The Life & Death of Jesus

APRIL 2010

LIFEGROUP QUESTIONS

Firm Foundation: Looking at the evidence of the death and resurrection of Christ

Objective: To be able to examine and tell others of the foundation of Christianity

To unbelievers, the point of Christ's death and resurrection is a fable. As if followers of Christ have thrown away logic in order to believe the resurrection.

• **Have you ever had to defend your faith in Jesus?**

Read:

"If Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith" (1 Cor. 15:14, NIV).

*The soldiers therefore came and broke the legs of the first man who had been crucified with Jesus, and then those of the other. **33** But when they came to Jesus and found that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. **34** Instead, one of the soldiers pierced Jesus' side with a spear, bringing a sudden flow of blood and water. John 19:32-34*

The death of Jesus was undisputed. The soldiers were so convinced of Christ's death that they didn't break his legs. A mistake from these soldiers could be punishable with death, so they confirmed with a side wound.

- **Have you ever been challenged of Christ's death?**
- **What does Christ's death mean for us as believers?**

Read:

Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: "I have seen the Lord!" John 20:18

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" John 20:19

A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" John 20:26

After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. 1 Corth. 15:6

Jesus appeared to Mary Magdalene, Thomas, his 12 disciples, and to 500 witnesses

• **Why did Jesus have to raise from the dead?**

• **How has His resurrection transformed your life?**

Pray and in your own words ask God:

• How can I share your resurrection this week?

For Further Study

John 20:1-8 "just Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. **2** So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!" **3** So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. **4** Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. **5** He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. **6** Then Simon Peter, who was behind him, arrived and went into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, **7** as well as the burial cloth that had been around Jesus' head. The cloth was folded up by itself, separate from the linen. **8** Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. **9** (They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.)