

# What the Resurrection Practically Changes - Spring 2026 D-Groups

*For Wednesday, April 8, 2026 -  
“The Resurrection Is Central to Our Witness”*



## The Big Picture - Our Theme for This Six-Week D-Group Session

This six-week session as we wrap-up this semester focuses on **Jesus' resurrection** ... this event brings about a massive transformation in our lives. As we put it in week #1, **“this changes everything!”** - focusing then on how this basic truth foundationally shifts our perspective and how we practically live. Given the significance of this event (it's a worthy theme!) and where we are on the calendar (Easter is April 5), this is a great topic for us to consider. **This week, we focus on another specific aspect of faith impacted by Jesus' resurrection: it is central to our WITNESS - our role of sharing the Good News of Jesus with others. At the heart of this Good News we are called to share are Jesus' death and RESURRECTION - it's what God has done to bring salvation to us.**

## Introductory Reflection

***Reflect on our responsibility in Christ to share the Good News of others. Who is most responsible of sharing this Good News with you? What has been your experience in telling others about Jesus? What are some successes/struggles you have in carrying-out this task?***

NOTE: We call this process of sharing our faith with unbelievers - with the direct goal of them putting their faith in Jesus - “EVANGELISM.” The very word's meaning in the Greek points to the GOOD NEWS or “Gospel” of salvation - **sharing the message, that is, the good news.**

Often, we might initially think of a street preacher, a pastor on stage at church or an evangelist at a revival. Yet, there's a more basic simplicity to this task: it's lovingly telling others the story of Jesus - specifically, how He saved each one of us and how He can do the same for them. For many reasons, we can find it challenging and intimidating to know how to start the conversation, how to answer questions people might have, how to help them get past the hurdles keeping them from following Jesus, etc. Yet, don't miss the simplicity of sharing the story of what God has done for us through Jesus' death and resurrection.

How we live in the midst of those who are unbelievers certainly matters - what some have labeled as “lifestyle evangelism.” If there's nothing positively noteworthy about our faith in Christ (*i.e.*, if it doesn't make a difference in a good way), then it's hard for us to gain a hearing, especially in our culture. We should be living the kind of life that attracts people to Jesus as that helps open doors (a key theme in 1 Peter). It has famously been put this way: *“preach the Gospel at all times; when/if necessary, use words.”* Yet, *at some point*, it matters that we actually tell the story - what being a “WITNESS” to Jesus is all about. **When it comes to sharing our faith with others, why is it necessary that at some point we move to actually sharing the content or message of the Good News?**

## This Theme in God's Word

Here are two simple reflections about this theme in God's Word, the focus of our content today:

***First, being saved by Jesus involves a calling to be His "WITNESSES," including the story of His death and resurrection!***

**READ Acts 1:8 (similar language appears in Luke 24:46-49) + how the resurrection consistently appears as part of the early believers' message present in Acts 1:22; 2:22-36; 3:12-16; 4:8-12; 5:29-32; 10:34-43; 13:32-41 and 17:16-34 - no need to read all of these in-depth, it's just important to note how central the resurrection was to their witness).**

Often times, we relegate this task to those who are in vocational ministry - pastors, missionaries, evangelists, etc. It is true that those we see in the book of Acts first publicly spreading the Good News were Jesus' Apostles. Yet, there's much good reason to think that Jesus intends for *all* of His followers to embrace this role! In fact, it could be argued that those without a formal title are often in the best position - especially in our context - to simply share the Good News of Jesus.

Don't miss the simplicity of this role: to be a "WITNESS" is to share what we've seen and heard, to tell the story of what we've experienced (a key emphasis in the preaching of Acts!). We are not eyewitnesses; yet, we still have a story to share about what Jesus has done in our lives - we have put our faith in Him because we've experienced the Good News. In the midst of telling our story, at the very center of the message should be what He has done for us through His death and resurrection!

***Second, the message should center around Jesus' death and resurrection - both parts are integral to the Good News of salvation through Him.***

**READ 1 Corinthians 15:1-4, 12-19 (notice in vv. 12-19 how many key realities depend on the resurrection) and Romans 10:9 - salvation happens as we respond with faith to what He's done ... even baptism as part of our conversion is connected to embracing this Good News as it pictures our identification with Jesus in His death/resurrection (see Romans 6:3-5).**

There are many truths of faith that we could share with others. As important as other matters are to our faith, salvation comes through a person choosing to believe/trust/put their faith in Jesus and what He's done for us.

## Questions for Reflection

***In your own words, why does Jesus' resurrection need to be part of our witness?***

Putting faith in Jesus means embracing Him as Lord and Savior; the RESURRECTION offers unique evidence to bolster who He claimed to be. As we're sharing our faith, sometimes, we have to give people a reason for our hope/faith in Him (see 1 Peter 3:15). ***How can the resurrection be used to provide unbelievers with that reason for why we trust in Him?***

***Identify some people in your circle of influence (don't forget your own children, even) whom God has put in your life so you can share with them this Good News. How can you do just that?***

In Acts 1:8, Jesus specifically connects the Holy Spirit and His power with the task of being His witnesses. ***What difference does He make in this process? How does this promise encourage you?***