

Jesus' Resurrection

Lesson 11 Summary Handout

Lesson Learning Objectives

- The participants will gain insight into the Paschal Mystery—particularly the mystery of Jesus' Resurrection.
- The participants will explore the significance of Jesus' death and Resurrection for their own lives.

Content Summary

1. Through Christ's life, death, Resurrection, and Ascension, all humanity has an opportunity to share in the eternal life God has planned for us from the beginning of time.
2. Jesus' Resurrection is the single most important event in all human history.
3. Each of the four Gospels has a slightly different account of what happened in the days after Jesus' death.
4. The resurrected Jesus couldn't easily be explained in human terms. He's different enough that some people do not recognize him immediately, yet when they do recognize him, he's still the same person they knew from before.
5. The Church teaches that a resurrected body is not a reanimated corpse. Jesus was truly transformed by the Resurrection.
6. There are good arguments to show that it is reasonable to believe in the Resurrection of Jesus as an actual historical event: (1) we can trust the historical validity of the New Testament books and letters, (2) the Resurrection was a consistent belief of the early Church, (3) the tomb was empty, and (4) the Resurrection appearances of Jesus caused a profound change in his followers.
7. For the first disciples, seeing the resurrected Jesus was clear evidence that Jesus was more than just another human being.
8. Belief in Jesus' Resurrection and belief in the Incarnation go hand in hand.
9. The Resurrection teaches us that death is not the end; death is the doorway to new and eternal life.
10. When we believe in Jesus Christ and in his Resurrection, our whole way of life is transformed.
11. The Paschal Mystery applies to our lives right now. We don't have to wait until our final death to experience new life.
12. After his Ascension into Heaven, Jesus remained fully God and fully man—he did not give up his human nature even though his mission had been accomplished.

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