

Rev. Natalee's Sermon Guide

April 14, 2024
Scripture: John 1:1-5

Main Point: Darkness is all around us, but as resurrection people, we cling to the truth that the darkness has not and cannot overcome the light of Jesus Christ.

Sermon Notes:

1. Light is found from the beginning of our Scriptures and interwoven throughout all of our stories of faith to our own stories today. Our stories need light.
1. Instead of avoiding or dismissing the existence of darkness, we must learn how to sit with darkness and find the light shining through it.
2. The light shines into the darkness, and the darkness has not understood it, has not overcome it, and cannot overcome it.
3. Darkness has tried to overcome light in every imaginable way, but the Light has won every time. Whatever darkness you are experiencing today, you can trust that Jesus will be victorious.

Scriptures to Consider: John 1:1-5, Genesis 1:1-5, Isaiah 9:1-7, Psalm 18:1-28, 1 John 1:5-7

Quotes to Consider:

"Look at how a single candle can defy the darkness" -Anne Frank

"Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that." - Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

"Hope is being able to see that there is light despite all of the darkness." - Archbishop Desmond Tutu

"The little light of mine, I'm goin'a let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Everywhere I go, I'm goin'a let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

All through the night, I'm goin'a let it shine, let it shine, let it shine."

-United Methodist Hymnal #585, Afro-American spiritual adapted by William Farley Smith

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Your Vision Committee would love to hear your thoughts, ideas, and feedback regarding our "Compassion & Conviction" sermon series! Please scan the QR code to complete a brief survey. Thanks for your participation!



Sermon Guide

Walking with Christ in Witness

April 14, 2024

Scriptures: Luke 24:36-48 NIV
1 Corinthians 15:12-19 NIV

Rev. Jim Bocian

In Luke 24:26-38, the resurrected Christ who triumphed over the grave comes to encounter us and make us witnesses to inaugurate a new way of living.

Question: How does the reality of Christ being alive and over everything including death impact how I live today? If we truly love the Lord, how can that love give us the courage to face the difficulties before us?

Rev. John Leece

In Luke 24:26-38, we hear the experience of the disciples with Jesus after his resurrection. Jesus did what He said He would do! He showed that He was not a ghost but flesh and blood. He showed them His hands and feet and ate with them as proof that He was himself.

The Apostle Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 15:12-19 that the resurrection of Jesus is vital to our faith and without it, our faith is useless. The resurrection proves Jesus is who He said He was! Because Jesus was raised, as followers of Jesus, we have the sure hope we will experience resurrection as well. Christ offers new life now and life eternal!

Question: If you have not been a believer in Jesus, will you receive Christ today? Will you become a witness for Jesus in the world? As a follower of Christ, will you be a witness to his resurrection? Will you tell people, and show people through your life, that Jesus is alive?

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