



That You May Believe: The Resurrection

John Bodily – 5th April 2026 ([watch talk here](#))

In this talk John Bodily focused on the climax of John's gospel: the resurrection of Jesus (John 20:1-23). This is the linchpin in John's case and the ultimate answer to the question, '*Why believe?*'. John explains that the resurrection not only provides compelling evidence of Jesus' divinity but also forms the basis of a future hope we can trust in. The New Testament promises that when Jesus returns to renew us and renew creation, we too will receive resurrected bodies like his (Philippians 3:20-21; 1 Corinthians 15:20).

John describes the events of Jesus' historical resurrection and the future hope of our own resurrection as two great pillars—one behind us and one before us—holding up the ceiling of Christian faith under which we live our lives. He encouraged us that with this resurrection perspective, famously described by Paul (2 Corinthians 4:14–18), we can find strength, hope, peace, and even joy amid life's very real challenges

Key verses:

John 20:1-23

Philippians 3:20-
21

1 Corinthians 15:20

2 Corinthians
4:14-18

Reflect and discuss

In the talk John invites us to consider the experiences of Mary Magdalene and the disciples in our key passage. Read John 20 verses 1-23. What stands out to you? What can we learn about belief amidst tears and fears from this passage?

Share & Pray

Consider again the truth that Jesus did indeed rise from the dead and that God's people will too, one day be raised. **What does this mean to you and your perspective on your life?** Spend time in smaller groups sharing your responses and praying for one another.

Activate

Reflect on the imagery of living underneath the ceiling of faith and hope held up by the pillars of Jesus' historical resurrection and the hope of the future resurrection each day this week. How does this inform your perspective on each day as you go through the week?

Prepare to share your experience in a future Small Group meeting.