

From the very first, the conviction that Jesus had been raised from death has been that by which (the Christians') very existence has stood or fallen. There was no other motive to account for them, to explain them... At no point within the New Testament is there any evidence that the Christians stood for an original philosophy of life or an original ethic. Their sole function is to bear witness to what they claim as an event - the raising of Jesus from among the dead... The one really distinctive thing for which the Christians stood was their declaration that Jesus had been raised from the dead according to God's design, and the consequent estimate of Him as in a unique sense Son of God and representative man, and the resulting conception of the way to reconciliation.

C.F.D. Moule

The truth of the resurrection gives life to every other area of gospel truth. The resurrection is the pivot on which all of Christianity turns and without which none of the other truths would much matter. Without the resurrection, Christianity would be so much wishful thinking, taking its place alongside all other human philosophy and religious speculation.

John MacArthur

To see the world's rebels turned into friends of God is, after all, a God-centered goal. It looks beyond benefit to men. For in coming to Christ their hearts will be changed. They will be made new men throughout. As friends they will do what they would not do as foes. They will lay down their arms and raise their songs of praise: they will *worship* their Creator. They will adore Him whom they once despised. They will praise the Lord!

Tom Wells

If conversion to Christianity makes no improvement in a man's outward actions--if he continues to be just as snobbish or spiteful or envious or ambitious as he was before--then I think we must suspect that his 'conversion' was largely imaginary.

C.S. Lewis

God became man to turn creatures into sons: not simply to produce better men of the old kind but to produce a new kind of man.

C.S. Lewis

Resurrection Sunday

Why I am (still) a Christian, part 2

Philippians 3

Introduction: Christianity is being maligned today, and not just by the militant atheists. The fact that so many prominent Christian leaders have fallen into sexual, moral, and financial misconduct certainly brings the credibility of Christianity into question. So, why would any intelligent, honest, and discerning person choose to follow Christ?

The Question of Christian Credibility

Christianity is only credible if it produces better people.

The Quest for the "Ideal"

The "ideals" we seek

The "ideal" God provides

Why I am (still) a Christian

Because in Jesus Christ I have been given acceptance before God

Because in Jesus Christ I have a transforming relationship with Christ

Because Jesus Christ provides me with a grand purpose for living

Applying these truths to life ...

Here at Northpoint we understand that your relationship with God can't be manufactured by religious rituals or anything else a church could ask you to do. Your opinion of God, and His Son Jesus Christ is an intensely personal thing. But, we want you all to know that, while personal, it is also something God won't let you ignore.

If you would like to have a question answered, or a need prayed for, our prayer team will be available by the stage at the end of the service. Feel free to find them, and spend whatever time you need.

Resurrection Sunday

Why I am (still) a Christian, part 2

Philippians 3

Introduction: Christianity is being maligned today, and not just by the militant atheists. The fact that so many prominent Christian leaders have fallen into sexual, moral, and financial misconduct certainly brings the credibility of Christianity into question. So, why would any intelligent, honest, and discerning person choose to follow Christ?

The Question of Christian Credibility

Christianity is only credible if it produces better people.

The Quest for the “Ideal”

The “ideals” we seek

The “ideal” God provides

Why I am (still) a Christian

Because in Jesus Christ I have been given acceptance before God

Because in Jesus Christ I have a transforming relationship with Christ

Because Jesus Christ provides me with a grand purpose for living

Applying these truths to my life ...

Here at Northpoint we understand that your relationship with God can't be manufactured by religious rituals or anything else a church could ask you to do. Your opinion of God, and His Son Jesus Christ is an intensely personal thing. But, we want you all to know that, while personal, it is also something God won't let you ignore.

If you would like to have a question answered, or a need prayed for, our prayer team will be available up by the stage at the end of the service. Feel free to find them, and spend whatever time you need.

Kids Notes

Why I am (still) a Christian

The Questions

Answer the following questions. The answers are on the back.

1. When Paul met Jesus, he discovered that following Him:

- A. wasn't worth the effort.
- B. was of more value than anything else.
- C. could wait.
- D. all of the above.

2. When we follow Christ we find:

- A. that our past has been forgiven.
- B. our lives are being transformed.
- C. that our lives now have a grand purpose.
- D. all of the above.

3. The power of Christ's Resurrection:

- A. is of no use today.
- B. is the power by which Christ followers live and grow.
- C. is something we can't know.
- D. was the hit single on the radio in Jesus' day.

For Family Discussion: Why is being a Christ-follower more than going to church or being religious?

Space to Doodle

Did You Hear It?

Mark the times you hear these key words:

RESURRECTION _____	TOTAL: _____
PAUL _____	_____
CHRISTIAN _____	_____
RUBBISH _____	_____
IDEAL _____	_____
PURPOSE _____	_____

Word Search

Find the following words in the scramble below. Letters are sometimes used twice, and words may go around corners.

RESURRECTION PAUL CHRISTIAN RUBBISH IDEAL PURPOSE
 EASTER EGGS RELIGION RITURAL SPIRIT JESUS CHRIST TOMB
 ANGELS SONGS CHURCH LOVE PEOPLE WORLD BETTER GAIN
 VALUE RIGHTEOUSNESS ALMIGHTY ACCEPTANCDE FORGIVEN

```

L E E H R E K H G C H J N L R A G
M Y B U L E S Q H U C E E U N C A
L V T P L I S R Z A R S V A N C I
I O O H B A I U J N U U I P Y E N
E E V B G S V Q R N H S G S S P O
P F U E T I P V L R C F R T X T V
N R U I R G M O E T E T O Y P A E
S M A M C I D L R O W C F C Y N A
L N L W K W T X A B E T T E R C S
R I G H T E O U S N E S S I S D T
P U R P O S E N R K I O L P O E E
N O I G I L E R Z A N D I E S N R
T O M B L P P P D G L R E G G B W
Z W O P R K E G S B I K G A J N N
A M I T S I R H C T N E O L L Z A
  
```