

Resurrection Sunday ~ Power for Living

Happy Resurrection Sunday!

Living the Life God has called us to is Good Works—Our Destiny.

[1] We have to **reach** people.

[2] **Resurrection** is available to all people.

[3] The **Roman Road** leads us all to home.

We are created for Good Works. It is our Destiny.

Ephesians 2:10 English Standard Version (ESV)

¹⁰ For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Ephesians 2:10 The Passion Translation (TPT)

¹⁰ We have become his poetry,^[a] [The beautiful Greek word used here is translated “poem” or “poetry.” Our lives are the beautiful poetry written by God that will speak forth all that he desires in life.] a re-created people that will fulfill the destiny he has given each of us, for we are joined to Jesus, the Anointed One. Even before we were born, God planned in advance *our destiny* and the good works^[b] we would do to *fulfill it!* [Although implied, these good works make up our destiny. As we yield to God, our prearranged destiny comes to pass and we are rewarded for simply doing what he wanted us to accomplish.]

Fulfill your Destiny!

[1] We have to work to reach people and help them understand.

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Last week we had a good Easter Egg Hunt, even in the gym. People had a good time of Fellowship, Nate delivered a Jesus message beforehand in the fellowship hall and then we turned them loose to gather from the gym floor, scattered with eggs! I would argue that its not about the eggs and the candy and the marshmallow peeps of various forms, bunnies or chicks or eggs, nor about even delicious Cadbury Eggs. Jesus is the reason for the season. I know we have coopted a pagan holiday and celebrate one of the most amazing stories ever on that day. The coopting does not lessen the story. Reaching out to people and culture where they are is what the Apostle Paul wrote about.

1 Corinthians 9:19-23 English Standard Version (ESV)

¹⁹ For though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them. ²⁰ To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though not being myself under the law) that I might win those under the law. ²¹ To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (not being outside the law of God but under the law of Christ) that I might win those outside the law. ²² To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some. ²³ I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings.

1 Corinthians 9:19-23 The Passion Translation (TPT)

Paul, a Servant to All

¹⁹ Now, even though I am free from obligations to others,^[a] [That is, Paul lived free from the obligation of pleasing those who paid him a salary. He lived by faith, yet he still became the servant of all.] I *joyfully* make myself a servant to all in order to win as many converts as possible. ²⁰ I became

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Jewish to the Jewish people in order to win them to the Messiah. I became like one under the law to gain the people who were stuck under the law, even though I myself am not under the law. ²¹ And to those who are without the Jewish laws, I became like them, as one without the Jewish laws, in order to win them, although I'm not outside the law of God but under the law of Christ. ²² I became "weak" to the weak to win the weak. I have adapted to the culture of every place I've gone^[b] so that I could more easily win people to Christ. [Or "I have become all things to all different kinds of people"; that is, he adapted culturally wherever he ministered.] ²³ I've done all this so that I would become God's partner for the sake of the gospel.^[c]

Paul is declaring the five motivating principles for his ministry:

- (1) Always start by finding common ground with those you want to reach.
- (2) Avoid projecting to others that you are a know-it-all.
- (3) Accept everyone regardless of his or her issues.
- (4) Be sensitive to the culture of others.
- (5) Use every opportunity to share the good news of Jesus Christ with people.

We have to meet society where they are and draw them into the truth. We have a Fall Festival to get all the Halloweeners to become Jesusers. Easter becomes Resurrection Sunday. Everyday life becomes an expression of the Gospel Message.

Jeff Vanderstelt writes his books, *Saturate*, about Saturating every day with Jesus, and *Gospel Fluency*, being so fluent in the

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language and ideas and expression of the Gospel message that we speak it to one another and translate it to those who don't speak it—in the everyday stuff of life. Live Jesus's Love Story every day.

We cannot be Jesus, but we are made in His image and likeness (genesis 2) and like any image or symbol we express and communicate.

Genesis 1:27 English Standard Version (ESV)

**²⁷ So God created man in his own image,
in the image of God he created him;
male and female he created them.**

People watch cat videos on the internet because they are cute or funny. They watch sermons or political speeches because they contain meaning and values and culture. They watch TED Talks to learn and grow. TED Talks are 15-20 minutes presentations by World Experts to edify and educate. Really focused messages. I saw one on World Population that used gumballs to prove why we can't just bring everyone to America as it would overstress and destroy us. Our best bet is to use the power and ability we have to send aid and food to them. Don't break the engine, harness the engine in better ways for better work. Another Ted Talk was on how Stress is not the villain on our health, but our perceptions on stress kill us, not the stress itself. So stress is just your body's way of coping with a situation where you need more function. Check them out! They are the intellectual equivalent of Kitten Videos.

Did someone say Rabbit Trail on Easter Sunday?

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Why are we here today?

[2] Jesus was Resurrected from the Grave!

We celebrated on Good Friday here with a Prayer and Praise Worship and Testimony Time. Nate and the Moehring Kids did a skit about the journey to the cross using a loaf of bread to represent Jesus and then we ended with communion. It is a good Friday because Jesus died for our sins, paying the price, taking them to the grave.

It is an Amazing Easter Sunday because three days later, just as He Himself had prophesied, He rose from the grave. He had raised Lazarus from the grave, healed the sick, cleansed the lepers, driven out legions of demons, but then He was killed. To us in the natural it seemed like it was over. Then, three days later, “this temple”, His body, was risen from the grave and He met the disciples, many others, including 500 at one time. He proved His resurrection and then, giving us the commission to “Go into all the world and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit” He departed to sit at the Right Hand of the Father and make intercession for us, pray for us, meddle in our lives, from the throneroom of heaven.

That same resurrection power comes to live inside of us, when we receive Jesus as our Lord and Savior. I invite you to choose Jesus as your Lord and Savior today. Having God, who created the universe on your side, and being on His side, makes for the best life possible.

Do you want to serve yourself all your life? How small of a story that is. Why not be part of the Biggest story every told, and active

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participant, a hero on the team of Christ Jesus. Fulfill a great destiny! Team Jesus!

He is messiah. He is the foretold, prophesied one.

Hollywood makes a lot out of prophecy for their movies. They do that as a shadow of what happened with Jesus. He fulfilled many prophecies in His life. The best was that He would be the Messiah, the foretold one, who came to rescue Israel's Chosen People and now us, Gentiles, outsiders, made one with His family in His love and desire to have all humanity saved and leading better best lives.

Avengers Movie—get the glove off.

All the universe lines up for one moment. Push the button, Take the glove off. Touch the podium. But we miss it and the universe is not saved. We miss our opportunity.

But Jesus makes it so that wasted time is redeemed after you choose Him. Don't use it as an excuse to not push the button. To go on sinning so the story of your healing, your testimony in the court of life, is greater. Why not get saved and get started with the good stuff now? I want the best stuff now!

We prefer protection to healing.

Not suffering damage to repairing the damage.

Learning by other's mistakes and examples to burning our own hand, catching a disease, dying.

But God has a way of turbo boosting us to where He wants us.

In the past I have regretted not going to a Christian College in my teens and becoming a minister then, living out the next 30 years on mission for Jesus.

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But do you know, He is using me now in powerful ways, satisfying ways, and I believe that when we choose Jesus now, and every now that follows, we have an amazing life.

He even helps me forget regrets and heal from past mistakes so that I can operate empowered now for the best. He overcomes my past and gives me a future and a right-now life in Him.

Jesus came and taught His disciples for three years. Then He accomplished the rescue of all souls that will accept rescue, and now He operates from the command central of Heaven. He is the Lord of Hosts, Leader of the Armies of Heaven.

What is our war today?

To love everyone. To love the unloved. With Unconditional Love.

To rescue lost sinners and introduce them to salvation.

To teach and display His Kingdom living, so that eternal life is on the earth now, to bring the Kingdom of Heaven to Earth. Let there be light!

To help those rescued to go out and rescue and teach to rescue. To teach how to live, to live that way and lead others in living that way by speaking the Gospel to one another, all the time. To have a personal relationship with Jesus all the time. To live with Jesus all the time.

Lining up our lives with Heaven and letting Heaven flow through us to earth. Letting it pour love and joy and healing and LIFE into and through us. Rescue. Healing. Redeeming. Heaven!

And sometimes we stumble, sometimes we drift out of alignment, and we need to line back up, we need to get our feet again. But

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we are here for one another, God is here for us, to line us up again and set us building the kingdom — One living stone at a time. And the results are up to Him. Good thing He is God, huh?

Let's choose Him. Let's follow Him. Let's lead His life here on earth. Let's lead others into that life as well. It is a deep well with life-giving water, water of life, eternal life. Drink from the water of life for free, and freely drink whenever. Don't be stingy! Hydrate!

Jesus declared the Lord's Favor.

Isaiah 61 English Standard Version (ESV)

The Year of the LORD's Favor

**61 The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,
because the LORD has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor;^[a]**

Or afflicted

**he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and the opening of the prison to those who are bound;^[b]**

Or the opening [of the eyes] to those who are blind;

Septuagint and recovery of sight to the blind

**² to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor,
and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn;**

**³ to grant to those who mourn in Zion—
to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit;
that they may be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the LORD, that he may be glorified.^[c]**

Or that he may display his beauty

**⁴ They shall build up the ancient ruins;
they shall raise up the former devastations;**

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**they shall repair the ruined cities,
the devastations of many generations.**

Passion Translation Isaiah 61:1-4

61 ¹The mighty Spirit of Lord Yahweh is *wrapped* around

[Or “upon, in, on, over, above, by, through, through-out, aroundm beside]

me because Yahweh has anointed me

[Jesus is the anointed one to open the door of grace and proclaim the Lord’s Day. As prophet He comes to preach the new season of grace, as priest he comes to heal, as king he comes to decree and herald peace and freedom to the captives]

as a messenger to preach good news to the poor,

[humble, lowly, depressed]

***He sent me* to heal the wounds of the broken-hearted, to tell captives, “You are free”**

[Romans 8:21, 2 Cor 3:17, Gal 5:1],

and to tell prisoners, “Be free from *your* darkness.”

[release the blind from darkness LXX]

²I am sent to announce a *new* season

[“year” not a literal year, but a season of time]

of Yahweh’s grace

[favor, good pleasure, acceptance]

and a time of God’s recompense *on his enemies*, to comfort those who are in sorrow. ³to strengthen those *crushed by despair* who mourn in Zion—to give them a beautiful bouquet in the place of ashes, the oil of bliss

[joy, gladness, Heb 1:9]

instead of tears,

[(robes of) mourning]

and the mantle of joyous praise

[a splendor-garment]

instead of the spirit of heaviness.

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[Or “the spirit of failure” The Hebrew word for “heaviness” *keheh* come from a root word for “dark, dim, obscure, colorless, gloom”]

Because of this, they will be known as *Mighty Oaks of Righteousness*

[The Oak, a hardwood tree, was used to make yokes for oxen and symbolizes strength, might (mighty men), stability, conviction, uprightness, resoluteness. This could be the *quer-cus calliprionos*, also known as the Palestine oak. There is a Paestine oak not far from Hebron that has been estimated to be 850 years old. “Oaks of Righteousness” points to a godly, spiritually mature people who will know the will of God and walk in it. Jesus, the Tree of Life, multiplies himself in us so we become trees of righteousness. A Tree becomes a forrest. See Psalm 1:3—Psalm] 1:3 The Passion Translation (TPT)

³ He will be standing firm like a flourishing tree planted by God’s design,^[a] Or “transplanted.” That is, God planted our lives from where we were into a place of blessing. See [Ps. 92:13-14](#).

deeply rooted by the brooks of bliss,
bearing fruit in every season of his life.
He is never dry, never fainting,
ever blessed, ever prosperous.^[b] The metaphors found in this verse can be paraphrased as “No matter what he sets out to do, he brings it to a successful conclusion.”],

planted [see Ps 92:13; 1 Cor 3:9] by Yahweh as a *living display of his glory*. ⁴They will restore ruins from long ago and rebuild what was long devastated.

[These desolate places can also point to areas of our lives that are broken and to spiritual truths that have been lost and

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forgotten for generations, which are now being recovered.
See Acts 3:21

Acts 3:21 The Passion Translation (TPT)

21 For he must remain in heaven until the restoration of all things^[a] [Or “until the time for the universal restoration.”] has taken place,^[b] [Or “This one the heavens must receive until the times of universal restoration.” The word *restoration* in Greek is *apokatastasis*, which infers the restoration of creation to the state of existence before the fall, but also Davidic covenant being restored. Luke’s choice of the Greek word found only here in the New Testament is noteworthy. It is a medical term that means “restoration of perfect health.”] *fulfilling everything that God said long ago through his holy prophets.*]

They will renew ruined cities and desolations of past generations.

Ps 92:13; 1 Cor 3:9

Psalms 92:13-14 The Passion Translation (TPT)

**13 You’ve transplanted them into your heavenly courtyard,
where they are thriving before you.**

**14 For in your presence they will still overflow and
be anointed.**

**Even in their old age they will stay fresh,
bearing luscious fruit and abiding faithfully.**

1 Corinthians 3:9 The Passion Translation (TPT)

9 We are coworkers with God^[a]

[Workers have different gifts and abilities, but true growth of God’s kingdom is through divine power. No one is a superstar; we are all members on God’s team.]

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and you are God's cultivated garden, the house he is building.

[3] **The Roman Road** leads us all to home.

The Roman Road to Salvation is a selection of Bible verses taken from the book of Romans that present the plan of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ. These are the most important verses to remember when sharing your faith.

I consider myself a 'good person' . . . won't that be enough?

Romans 3:23 ²³ for we all have sinned and are in need of the glory of God.

Romans 3:10 ¹⁰ And the Scriptures agree, for it is written: There is no one who always does what is right,
no, not even one!

Is sin really THAT big of a deal? If it is . . . what HOPE is there?

Romans 6:23 ²³ For sin's meager wages is death,^[a] but God's lavish gift is life eternal, found in your union with our Lord Jesus, the Anointed One.

Footnotes:

- a. Romans 6:23 The Greek word translated "meager wages" actually means "the wages of a foot soldier." This Greek word, *opsonion*, is taken from the word used for a piece of dried fish: *opsarion*. The Aramaic can be translated "The business of sin is death."

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After what I've done to greive God . . . HOW could He willingly die in my place?

Romans 5:8 ⁸ But Christ proved God's passionate love for us by dying in our place while we were still lost and ungodly!

HOW can I be saved?

Romans 10:9-10 ⁹ And what is God's "living message"? It is the revelation of faith for salvation,^[a] [Word of Faith] which is the message that we preach. For if you publicly declare with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will experience salvation. ¹⁰ The heart that believes in him receives the gift of the righteousness of God—and then the mouth gives thanks^[b] to salvation. [As translated from the Aramaic. The Greek is "the mouth confesses to salvation."]

You can never be saved by trying to be a good person, nor can you be saved through any amount of 'good works.' Ephesians 2: 8-9 says Ephesians 2:8-9 The Passion Translation (TPT) **⁸ For it was only through this wonderful grace that we believed in him. Nothing we did could ever earn this salvation, for it was the gracious gift from God that brought us to Christ!** ⁹ So no one will ever be able to boast, for salvation is never a reward for good works or human striving. You and I can be saved only by confessing our sins and placing our faith in God's son, Jesus Christ who died and paid for our sins on the cross.

Did God HEAR me? Did He accept me?

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Romans 10:13 ¹³ And it's true:

“Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord Yahweh will be rescued and experience new life.”^[a]

Joel 2:32 English Standard Version (ESV)

³² And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved. For in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be those who escape, as the LORD has said, and among the survivors shall be those whom the LORD calls.

What do I do now?

Romans 10:17 ¹⁷ So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

Romans 10:17 The Passion Translation (TPT)

¹⁷ Faith, then, is birthed in a heart that responds to God's anointed utterance of the Anointed One.

Welcome Home to the Family of God and our Father's House.

We have a Bible for you to read God's Word for yourself. A new believer's guide and a willingness to meet with you one-on-one to shore up the work that's been done and expand it's effectiveness in your life.

Visit often. Come Home Daughter. Come Home Son.

Wednesday Nights, Sunday Mornings, Sunday Nights, Friday Mornings. Come!

Come Home to Father's House. Your Family in God.