**Pastor Demetric Felton Sr. April 16, 2017**

**The Reality of the Resurrection**

1 Peter 1:3-9

**Key Truth:** The Resurrection is not a fallacy based on myths but is a fact based on credible eyewitness accounts.

1. The Resurrection shows God’s mercy. Ephesians 2:4-6

 A. Mercy is God withholding from us what we deserve.

 B. Grace is God giving us what we don’t deserve.

 C. Jesus Christ paid the ultimate price.

 D. The resurrection is Jesus Christ triumph over evil.

2. The Resurrection gives us hope for today.

 1 Thessalonians 4:13-14

 A. No matter what you face in life you are never

 defeated.

 B. The resurrection says that the Christian is never

 alone.

3. The Resurrection shows God’s purpose in suffering.

 Romans 8:37-39, Hebrews 12:2

 A. For a Christian, suffering is not eternal but joy is.

 B. Suffering reveals God’s power available to us.

 C. Suffering reveals the genuineness of our faith.

4. The Resurrection assures us that our salvation is

 secure. Colossians 3:1-2

 A. Because the Bible is trustworthy.

 B. Because the tomb is empty.

 C. Because we see His power revealed through those who

 believe in Him.

**Taking It Beyond the Walls:** Don’t wait to see Jesus before you trust Him. He is alive and reigns as King. Receive Him today.

**Connection Group Study Questions**

For the Week of April 16, 2017

Looking back at your notes from this weekend’s message, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

Read: Matthew 28:1-10. What thoughts or observations come to mind as you read the text?

Read: Luke 24:13-27: Why do you think it is important for us to be able to give credible witness about the resurrection from the Bible? (Hint: Jesus used the Scriptures to attest and explain His suffering, resurrection and ascension, as did Peter and Paul.)

Understanding who Jesus is and what he has done for us is the essential message of Easter. The following passages all contain statements that Jesus made about himself. For each one, identify what he says about himself and any ways you can think of for how his description of himself can have an impact on our lives as believers.

John 6:35

John 8:12

John 10:7-10

John 10:14-15

John 11:25

John 14:6

This week pray for someone you know that hasn’t trusted Christ as Savior.