

Jesus — his death and resurrection

home page

The death and resurrection of Jesus show how God shares our life, loves us, forgives us and has a purpose for our lives.



mega byte



God's rescue mission

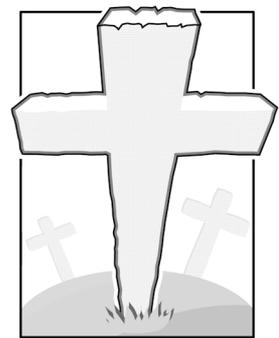
- God made us and loves us.
- We were made to know God and have a close relationship with him. But we turned away. We followed our own paths. We are cut off from God by all the things we think and say and do that separate us from him – our pride, our selfishness, our sins.
- Our hearts are restless, and without God we have no hope of heaven.
- But God sent Jesus to save us from our sins and their effects.
- The name Jesus means 'Saviour'. Jesus died so that we can enjoy a new relationship with God.
- His resurrection is the proof that all God's promises are true.



Check out the evidence for the resurrection ...

That Jesus rose from the dead may seem a little hard to believe. After all, it isn't exactly an everyday occurrence! But what about:

- **The empty tomb.** Despite the fact the tomb was guarded, the stone was rolled away. If Jesus didn't rise from the dead, where did his body go? If the authorities had taken it (and why should they?) they would have produced it when claims about the resurrection were made later.
- **The witnesses.** More than 500 people claimed to have seen Jesus alive. Their encounters changed their lives and they were prepared to die for their belief. The witnesses not only saw him – they talked with him, walked with him, learnt from him, ate with him and touched him.



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- **The Church began.** After the cross the disciples were demoralized and defeated. They were afraid of what might happen to them. They denied that they even knew Jesus. Only a few days later they were risking their lives to proclaim Jesus as the Saviour. Their witness turned the world upside down. What event (other than the resurrection) could have so transformed them? Would you travel to the ends of the earth to spread a message you had made up? Would you die for something you had imagined?



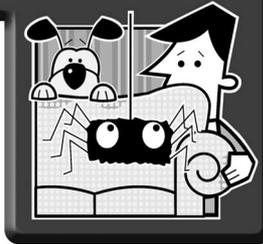
- **The testimony of Christians.** For 2,000 years, in every culture, men and women have claimed that we can know Jesus for ourselves. This is happening today in our country, in our town, in our church.

interfacing

Use this prayer this week:

Eternal God, in whom is all our hope in life, in death, and to all eternity: grant that, rejoicing in the eternal life which is ours in Christ, we may face whatever the future holds in store for us calm and unafraid, always confident that neither death nor life can part us from your love in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.



processing

Read the section about God's Rescue Mission on this sheet, again.

Does it make sense?



do something about it

Make your own cross. You could use wood, twigs bound together with thread, pipe cleaners, clay or card and paint. Put it somewhere where it will remind you of Jesus' death and resurrection.



coming soon

Next week:
The Holy Spirit.

