**“I am the Resurrection and the Life”**

**Resources for Preparation beforehand:**

* Who is Jesus/Who am I sheet
* Paper and pencils/pens
* A small bowl
* A means of playing the worship song and/or copies of words for everyone

**Discussion Starter:**

If you could ask God one question about death or life after death what would you ask?

**Experiential:**

We often use the expression, “If only…”. Can each person write on their piece of paper a time when they have said this. (It will not need to be shared with others)

**God Reveals Himself:**

Read Daniel 12 v 1-3

The Jews believed that there would be a new heaven and a new earth at the end of time. What do you think they would have understood this would be like?

**Reading**: John 11 v 1 -44

* As you read ask people to imagine themselves as one of the characters (you may like to check somebody is identifying with each character) Jesus, Mary, Martha, disciples and Judeans

**Questions:**

1. What did you notice as you experienced this passage as one of the characters?
2. If you connected with one of the services what did you take away?
3. What does this passage tell us about when resurrection happens through Christ?
4. How would this have challenged the people of the time’s understanding of resurrection?
5. Consider the different ways that Jesus responded to Mary and Martha even though they both said, “ If only…”
6. How might this impact the way we relate to others?
7. What part do hope and faith play in resurrection and life?

**Response & Worship:**

* ***Song suggestion:*** *Forever by Kari Jobe* [Forever with Lyrics (Kari Jobe) - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KeJ14W2lXCw)
* *Create a time of quite where people can talk with God about their own “If only…” written earlier. Allow plenty of time and then let them give It back to God by putting it in the bowl. (Reassuring them that these will not be read)*
* ***Prayer:*** *pray for individuals you know who need to know God’s resurrection power*

**Take Away:**

* Encourage everyone to record something on their “Who is Jesus/Who am I” sheet and brin:g it to add to each week.
* For during the week:
	+ Try having a candle burning when you have your quiet time, sit quietly with God
	+ Reflect on what being a resurrection person means in your life
	+ Take time to notice and appreciate the, “here and now”
	+ Continue to pray for a friend or family member who doesn’t yet know Jesus

**Forever by Kari Jobe**

The moon and stars they wept
The morning sun was dead
The saviour of the world was fallen
His body on the cross
His blood poured out for us
The weight of every curse upon him

One final breath he gave
As heaven looked away
The son of God was laid in darkness
A battle in the grave
The war on death was waged
The power of hell forever broken

The ground began to shake
The stone was rolled away
His perfect love could not be overcome
Now death where is your sting
Our resurrected king has rendered you defeated

Forever, he is glorified
Forever, he is lifted high
Forever, He is risen
He is alive
He is alive

We sing hallelujah
We sing hallelujah
We sing hallelujah
The lamb has overcome

We sing hallelujah
We sing hallelujah
We sing hallelujah
The lamb has overcome

Forever, he is glorified
Forever, he is lifted high
Forever, he is risen
He is alive
He is alive

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