Life & Power – now!

References

- **1 Corinthians 15:14** And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. (ESV)
- **Romans 8:11** If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you. (ESV)
- **N.T. Wright** *"Jesus's resurrection is the beginning of God's new project not to snatch people away from earth to heaven but to colonize earth with the life of heaven."*
- **John 20:21–22** [21] Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." [22] And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. (ESV)
- **Matthew 28:18–20** [18] And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. [19] Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, [20] teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." (ESV)
- **John 12:23–24** [23] And Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. [24] Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.
- **Ephesians 2:4-8** God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love, [5] even when we were dead in our sins, made us alive together with Christ and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, [7] so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace toward us in Christ Jesus. (ESV)
- **Eugene Peterson:** *We live our lives in the practice of what we do not originate and cannot anticipate. When we practice resurrection, we continuously enter into what is more than we are. When we practice resurrection, we keep company with Jesus, alive and present.*
- **Romans 6:4** We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. (ESV)

Digging Deeper

Questions and reflections for your own personal or group study.

1) What does it mean that Jesus' Resurrection is a "present reality?"
2) In what ways does the statement "Your life is not just a waiting room for your death" change your thinking?
3) Why doesn't God simply take a believer straight to heaven once he or she professes faith in Jesus?
4) In what ways are we "lifted up" with Jesus?
5) How does an eternal perspective change the way we see our lives?
6) How has the resurrection changed your life?