Unbelief is the enemy of the Gospel. There is a lack of belief in the significance of the resurrection of Jesus.

9 Reasons Why Our Faith is Bound Up in the Resurrection:

- 1. **It Gives Hope of Eternal Life:** If Christ isn't raised our faith is in vain, 1 Cor. 15:14.
- 2. **Is our Assurance of Salvation**: God accepted the sacrifice of Christ, paid in full.
- 3. **It is Proof that Jesus is God**: Romans 1:3-4, "declared to be the Son of God... by the resurrection from the dead."
- 4. It is Completely Unique: Jesus died as an innocent lamb, but never dies again, Rev. 1:18.
- 5. **It is Jesus' Completed Mission**: God has raised up Jesus and exalted Him, Acts 2:30-33.
- 6. **It Takes us Out of Sin:** 1 Cor. 15:17, because Christ is risen, sin is taken away.
- 7. **It is Messianic Prophecy Fulfilled**: Acts 2:31, Ps. 16:10, David prophesied it 1000 years before Christ.
- 8. **It is a Preview of Our Future**: 1 Cor. 15:23, Christ is the first fruits, afterward those who are His at His coming.
- 9. **Necessary for Saving Faith**: Romans 5:10, John 11:25; reconciled through His death and saved by His life. Also Romans 10:9-10, "believe that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved."

What Happened the Day of the Resurrection?

Mary Magdelene comes to the tomb and the stone is rolled away and an angel is there and tells her to not be afraid, Matt. 28:2-5, John 20:1. Mary runs to tell Peter and John that the stone is removed, and Jesus' body removed, John 20:2-10. The disciples return home, John 20:10. Mary Magdelene speaks with two angels in the tomb and then begins to speak to who she thinks is the gardener when Jesus reveals Himself to her, John 20:11-18. Jesus asks her not to cling to Him as He is going to ascend to the Father, her Father, and His God, her God, John 20:17.

Mary Magdelene, Salome, mother of James and John, and Mary, mother of James, and the other women (ref. Luke 8:3) had come to the tomb, two angels told them that Jesus had risen, Luke 24:5-8. They were afraid (Mk. 16:8) and ran to bring word to Peter and the rest of Jesus that Jesus was going to Galilee (Mk. 16:7). On the way there to Peter, Jesus met them and told them to "Rejoice," and to tell the brethren to go to Galilee where Jesus will meet them, Matt. 28:9-10.

Peter and John run to the tomb, John ran ahead of Peter, John 20:4. Peter goes in and sees the cloths folded together in a place by itself, John 20:7. Roman soldiers met with the Jewish leaders to fabricate a lie to blame the disciples of Jesus of stealing His body, Matt. 28:11-15. Jesus would meet first with Peter, 1 Cor. 15:5, before meeting with the rest of the disciples. Peter would preach on Pentecost. Jesus would walk seven miles to Emmaus with Cleopas and another and preach to them of Himself from Moses through the prophets, Luke 24:13-27. Jesus had dinner with them and then vanished. Both men ran back to Jerusalem to tell the disciples of Christ, Luke 24:33-35. Jesus calls them foolish ones for not understanding the Scriptures concerning Himself, His sufferings, and resurrection, Luke 24:25-27.

What would Jesus preach?

>>From Gen. 3:15 and the crushing of the serpent's head, coming through a chosen nation, from a king of Judah, from the prophets saying that He would come preaching the kingdom, be the Son of God, the Savior, Redeemer, born in Bethlehem, born of a virgin, be the suffering Savior, be crucified, and rise from the dead.

Jesus appears to the disciples (sans Thomas for 8 more days- See John 20:24-29) in their midst and ate with them proving He is alive and not a ghost, Luke 24:36-43. Jesus opened their minds so they would be able to understand what He had taught them while with them. They would know the Scriptures that testify of Christ, Luke 24:45. The disciples would be witnesses of Christ but first would tarry in Jerusalem until the Holy Spirit comes, Luke 24:46-49.

Thomas meets with Jesus after 8 days, John 20:26. Thomas believes (Jn. 20:28-29). Jesus would show Himself to His brother James, 1 Cor. 15:7. Jesus meets with all of disciples at the Sea of Galilee (Tiberias), John 21:7. Jesus meets again with Peter to command Him to feed His sheep, John 21:15-19. Jesus leads them as far as Bethany to the Mt. of Olives and ascends into heaven, Luke 24: 50-53, Acts 1:9-11. The disciples are recorded as being together in Jerusalem in Acts 1:13-14 waiting for the coming of the Holy Spirit.

Further Discussion and Application

Without the death of Christ there is no forgiveness of sins. His blood makes atonement for our sins. Write down a gospel message and the Scripture references to support each point. Include as many aspects of the nature of God, man, sin, and Christ as you can.

Jesus restores all the disciples after they abandoned Him. What is demonstrated by Jesus' love for His chosen saints in the fulfillment of His prayer in John 17? Why is our salvation not a work of our own, but of God? What Scriptures would you use to show others of God's electing love?

Belief in His resurrection is required for salvation. What Scriptures prove this point? Look at John 11:25, Romans 1:3-4, Romans 10:9-10, 1 Cor. 15:3-4, 13-14, 17-18, and Heb. 10:12. Ps. 16:10 tells of Christ's resurrection. Why is the fulfillment of Scripture necessary for Christ to save us? Which prophecies of Christ declare God's plan plainly and clearly to those He would save?