



VERTICAL SPORTS

3D DEVOTIONAL

3/30 Why Is Easter Important?

Sport: Call It A Comeback – In the sport arena there are times when athletes suffer an injury. Sometimes these injuries are for a few weeks, other times a few months, they can even knock an athlete out for an entire season, and the most extreme injuries can end their playing career. When an athlete has been injured for a long period of time or it was a severe injury you might hear the term that they are trying to “resurrect” their career. They are trying to make a comeback and play at the same skill level that they left off.

Life: Restore Areas in Life – Every day we interact with people: Our friends, family, coworkers, you name it. There are times when those conversations and interactions go great! Sometimes they can go bad. When that happens those relationships can suffer, they might even end. But if we really value a relationship, we will do whatever it takes to “resurrect” it. Maybe it is saying sorry or forgiving someone for something they said or did. A relationship that we think might be dead just might be able to be brought back to life.

Truth: What Happened on Easter? – Easter is tomorrow, Sunday...You might be thinking that Easter is an awesome time where we get chocolate bunny rabbits, easter egg hunts, and family meals. But it goes way beyond that.

Jesus’ death (Good Friday) - Because God loves you he sent His Son Jesus to earth born of the virgin Mary, he lived a perfect life, and died as the perfect/forever sacrifice for us – he paid the price for your sin, my sin, the worlds sin. But when he died, if he had stayed dead, he would have been just like any other person. But He wasn’t just another person He is the Son of God!

“Easter is a Christian holiday, and Christian celebrations focus on the true meaning of Easter: the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Two thousand years ago, Jesus died on a cross, was buried, and three days later rose to life again. This fact—that Jesus came to life again and lives evermore—is why we celebrate Easter. The meaning of Easter is that the Son of God paid the price for our sins and rose again to reconcile us to God Romans 4:25 - *He was handed over to die because of our sins, and he was raised to life to make us right with God.*

Easter means that our greatest enemy, death, has been conquered. Easter means that our sins are forgiven, and we are made right with God. Easter means that Christ is truly the King and Victor, seated “far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked” (Ephesians 1:21). The meaning of Easter is that Jesus is the Lord of new beginnings, new days, and new lives. Easter means that love is stronger than death. Love “burns like a blazing fire, like a mighty flame. Many waters cannot quench love; rivers cannot sweep it away” (Song of Solomon 8:6–7). It was for love that God gave His only Son (John 3:16 - *“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.”*);

I’d like to invite you to do two things:

- 1) If you have never turned away from your sin and believed in Jesus as your Lord and Savior, let today be the day
- you do that! After we are done here come and talk with one of our coaches.
- 2) Easter is this Sunday and we’d love for you and your family to come and celebrate with us! Service times are at 8:30a and 10:30a. We would be able to meet you and all sit together!