

Easter Sunday Bible Reading

1 Corinthians 15:1-20 NLT

Let me now remind you, dear brothers and sisters, of the Good News I preached to you before. You welcomed it then, and you still stand firm in it. It is this Good News that saves you if you continue to believe the message I told you—unless, of course, you believed something that was never true in the first place. I passed on to you what was most important and what had also been passed on to me. Christ died for our sins, just as the Scriptures said. He was buried, and he was raised from the dead on the third day, just as the Scriptures said. He was seen by Peter and then by the Twelve. After that, he was seen by more than 500 of his followers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he was seen by James and later by all the apostles. Last of all, as though I had been born at the wrong time, I also saw him. For I am the least of all the apostles. In fact, I'm not even worthy to be called an apostle after the way I persecuted God's church. But whatever I am now, it is all because God poured out his special favor on me—and not without results. For I have worked harder than any of the other apostles; yet it was not I but God who was working through me by his grace. So it makes no difference whether I preach or they preach, for we all preach the same message you have already believed. But tell me this—since we preach that Christ rose from the dead, why are some of you saying there will be no resurrection of the dead? For if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised either. And if Christ has not been raised, then all our preaching is useless, and your faith is useless. And we apostles would all be lying about God—for we have said that God raised Christ from the grave. But that can't be true if there is no resurrection of the dead. And if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, then your faith is useless and you are still guilty of your sins. In that case, all who have died believing in Christ are lost! And if our hope in Christ is only for this life, we are more to be pitied than anyone in the world. But in fact, Christ has been raised from the dead. He is the first of a great harvest of all who have died.

My Issue

I've always hated being told I couldn't do something. Does anyone really like other people or situations to pile limits, labels and liabilities on them?

Our Problem

We came into a world filled with limits, labels and liabilities. Didn't we? Some statements on the subject of our limits, labels and liabilities can hurt. Other statements on the subject of our limits, labels and liabilities are simply exasperating and senseless.

God's Solution

God did not create this world with all these painful limits, labels and liabilities. After he made this world, the planet was filled with love, life and limitless access to God for all humans. But our first parents decided we could do better on our own. Jesus came into this world through a door marked "No Entrance" Jesus lived in this world on a way marked "One Way Only" Jesus left this world like all of us through a door marked "No Re-entry" BUT Jesus re-entered this world through a door marked "No Exit"

Sermon in a sentence:

Jesus removes our limits, labels and liabilities. #thischangeseverything

It's your move.

What limits, labels and liabilities have been holding you back? You live in a world walled in by impossibilities. You confront their constrictions and controls every day. You probably see them as unavoidable and unchanging. However, Jesus turns impossibilities around. His life, death and resurrection remove your limits, labels and liabilities. He can set you free.

What can we look forward to?

What would happen if we all began to live above the world's impossibilities? What would happen if we all began to live as though we really believed God forgave us? What would it be like if we surrendered our limits, labels and liabilities to Jesus? What would it feel like to know Jesus could heal all our hurts, hang ups and habits? Our lives would be turn right side up. Everything would change.