Small Group/Sermon Notes based on "Miracles: Part 9"

Remember, small groups are primarily for growing closer relationships with other believers. We can learn wonderful things in this environment but keep relationships first.

- Make sure everyone knows each other's names. Have everyone share a little about themselves and how life is going right now.
- In this series we are going to look at categories of miracles so that we understand the sorts of things that God does. Then we will believe God to intervene in our lives!
- **Part Nine: The Resurrection of the Dead.**
- The resurrection of Jesus is the greatest miracle of all time!
- Have you heard that before?
    - Familiarity produces blind spots.
        - What blind spots might second or third generation believers develop?
    - Never ever forget or take for granted living forever in the paradise of God! Stay ever thankful for eternal life!!
        - Imagine what it would be like to be a friendly atheist and then come to believe in God.
    - It doesn't seem like resurrection is <u>real</u> to many Christians. It's like mythology.
        - Then church becomes <u>about</u> other things: tradition, keeping people happy, entertainment, coping platitudes, relational bonds, competition, service/ministry evaluation, branding, etc., rather than the Gospel and the Kingdom of God.
        - Have you seen that? What is the solution??
- So, read this and believe it like it was the first time.
- **John 20:1-31**
- Not only did Jesus rise and conquer death, but we can too!!!
    - Jesus is the way! **John 14:1-6**
    - Paul puts it this way: **Phil 3:7-11**
        - What would you give for $50,000,000? How about for 50 more years of perfect health? What about everlasting life in Heaven?? Would you give your life for that?
- What is Heaven like?
    - **Revelation 21:1-8**
    - Verse 8 is kind of harsh. We need to believe that too. There is power in contrast.
- So, who get's in? It's not up to me…
- What are the common extremes when it comes to understanding who gets to Heaven?
    - TRUTH: If you serve in God's Kingdom <u>now</u>, you <u>will</u> live in God's Kingdom later!!
        - Everything else is theological speculation. I think more will get in, but it is a gray area. If you want to be sure – then serve.
    - **Romans 6:3-5**
        - The resurrection life is for today. That we may life a new life!
        - The resurrection life is forever!!
    - Let's lay our lives down and pick up everlasting life in Christ!!
- Pray for each other before you finish up!