

Review The Three Trees (drama by kids)

1. One tree wanted to be a Treasure chest that holds great wealth.
2. One tree wanted to be A Great War ship - a symbol of power and technology.
3. One tree wanted to be the tallest to point to heaven - to be the greatest, tallest tree.

God had different plans and take on things.

- The treasure chest was actually a manger which held the greatest treasure.
- Jesus did not come in power. The ship became a small boat that held Jesus and the 12 disciples.
- A cross that was a form of execution - pointing to God. Jesus was not a man of stature but of elevated humility. The Beatitudes.

1. Treasure becomes fleeting –

Jesus could not even provide his own tomb. Joseph of Arimathea is mentioned in John 19 as a “secret disciple” meaning he did not want to give up his position of status and was fearful of what it would cost him to be associated with Jesus. (John 19:38-42) Also Nicodemus assisted with the burial of Jesus (the same one who came to Jesus in John 3.

Read Luke 23:50-56; 24:1, 3-12

Encourage participants to consider what might be holding them back from completely following Christ at this time in their life. (busy with work/family/kids; fear of what others might think; pursuit of stuff or money; etc.)

Read Luke 24:36-49. Jesus appears and points to the physical nature that He still has and that He was hungry so He was actually back from the grave.

The rich, young ruler. How do I inherit eternal life?

Money can be a huge stumbling block for some but God reminds that things are only possible because He makes them possible, not us or our efforts.

Read - Matthew 19:23-26

Having everything (treasure) does not bring hope and salvation.

2. Reasoning your way to Christ. Looking at the evidence of a risen Christ.

S. Joshua Swamidass - I am a scientist. Still, on Easter, I celebrate that Jesus rose from the dead about 2,000 years ago. This event, in first-century Palestine, is the cornerstone of everything. In the same way that trust-like faith in science is connected to evidence, so is the faith I have in the Resurrection. For more info - <http://www.veritas.org/evidence-easter-scientists-list/>

Without the physical resurrection you are missing a key point in history on which societal history turns.

Read these verses - Dates validate the existence of God through prophecies that were all fulfilled

Psalm 22:16

Isaiah 53

Further evidence that Jesus was a real person in history who died - non-Jewish historians confirm and there are over 66,000 manuscripts confirm. - Pattern of consistency throughout

After His death, His disciples scattered and then something happened and the movement only gets stronger. They became bold in persecution.

Many great minds have accepted the truth of the resurrection over the past 2000 years.

3.The realm of stature

The Greatest in the Kingdom come with a child-like Faith.

Matthew 18:1-4

“At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them and said, "Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.”

Matthew 18:1-4 ESV

Take time to hear prayer requests and spend time praying.