



Gary Inrig – The Miracles (My Lord and My God)

Read the Chapter in Advance of the Weekly Study. Make a Mental Note or Jot Down Something That Stood Out To You – and “Why? (Something strike you - strange – new or different?)”

Week 14 – Read Chapter Fourteen – My Lord and My God – The Resurrection of the Lord Jesus

Read – Acts 26:8; 1 Corinthians 15:3-8,14; John 2:19; John 10:17-18; John 20:1-31

***NOTE:** Before beginning it is always good to see if there are any immediate prayer needs among the group and be sure to include within opening prayer. Remind all too that ... *“What we say here stays here” so there is freedom in sharing – we are all learning from each other and from the Holy Spirit together – “Iron sharpens Iron” (Proverbs 27:17)*

Opening Prayer: Thank You - God for this study – and the insights You have been showing us throughout! Holy Spirit – be with us tonight as we once again sit at Your feet to see and hear and learn - what only You can teach us. May we enjoy a beautiful conversation and fellowship tonight in this study. Thank You – for this teaching on just some of your miracles – but especially this ***most important one!*** Your resurrection from the dead ... that we may have life in You - and in that life - abundance. We pray Your blessings upon us in the name of the Father Son and Holy Spirit amen!

Overview: This chapter explores the foundational miracle of Christianity—the resurrection of Jesus Christ—pointing out that the Christian faith rises or falls on this historical event. Gary examines the empty tomb not as the source of faith itself, but as evidence pointing to the living Christ. Through the accounts of Mary Magdalene, Peter, John, and Thomas, we see how encounters with the risen Lord transformed doubt into worship, fear into courage, and grief into joy. A Joy – that just couldn’t keep quiet! The resurrection settles (*once and for all*) Jesus's identity as Lord and God – which transforms our understanding of the cross from seeming defeat to ultimate victory! A victory by which we enter into a new covenant relationship with God as our Father. A covenant that guarantees all of Christ's promises as our inheritance and commissions us (*as believers*) **to GO ...** & carry the good news into all the world.

1. **The resurrection of Jesus Christ** - is the central message and miracle of Christianity - Without it, our faith is futile and we remain in our sins.
2. **The empty tomb** - alone didn't produce faith - It initially caused confusion, fear, and despair. Faith came through encountering the risen Christ.
3. **Jesus is** both the agent and recipient of resurrection - He laid down His life with authority and took it up again, in concert with the Father.
4. **The resurrection** transforms everything - Our understanding of the cross, our relationship with God, our mission, and our future.
5. **Jesus invites** investigation - He doesn't resist skepticism but welcomes honest inquiry, as He did with Thomas.

“... Thomas answered and said unto Him, My Lord and my God..”- John 20:28



Read Together: Acts 26:8; 1 Corinthians 15:3-8,14; John 2:19; John 10:17-18; John 20:1-31

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What's one thing you've always believed **to be impossible** but later found out to be – *not only possible* – but fact/true? Did that realization affect you – and if so, how?

2. Gary emphasizes that - "***the Christian faith rises or falls on the physical resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ***". - What would be different about Christianity if Jesus had remained dead?

3. In this chapter Gary points out that Mary Magdalene's first response wasn't "He is risen!" but "**He's been stolen!**" Why do you think - this detail is important for understanding the reliability of the resurrection accounts?

4. Peter and John (John 20:6-7) noticed specific details about the grave cloths—they were still lying there – and the head-cloth was folded separately. Why would these details matter? What do they tell us about what happened?

5. In John 20: v's 24-29. Thomas demanded physical proof before he would believe. How did Jesus respond to his skepticism? What does this teach us about how Jesus reacts to someone with a sincere doubt?

6. Thomas's response was immediate: "My Lord and my God!" (v. 28). This is a confession of faith, ultimate submission, and worship. What does it mean for you personally to call Jesus "**my Lord and my God**"?



Things to Do this Week - Try to Put At Least One into Practice (These are only thought starters) –

1: Investigate- Research a piece of historical evidence for the resurrection (empty tomb, eyewitness accounts, transformation of disciples, Extra-biblical source, etc.) Journal about how this evidence strengthens your faith

2: Testimony- Write out your own "resurrection story" (testimony) —how encountering the risen Christ has changed your life -Pray about a person to share it with this week and the opportunity to do so.

3: Worship- Spend some time in your daily routine this week – to think on and meditate on the words - Jesus - "My Lord and My God". Practice what it means to submit to His lordship in one specific area of your life

Closing Prayer: (this prayer is only a suggestion - please pray on your own as the Holy Spirit leads)
–Note: If there are any needs that have arisen during the study tonight – lift these up - especially.

Lord God – We Thank You for Your Life, Your Death and for Your Rising from the dead! This world’s ultimate Miracle. Remove any doubts that we might harbor and confront us afresh with the truth-as You did Thomas – that we might see You truly as “My Lord and My God”.

Give us the courage to share the truth of your resurrection with others and for opportunities to do so. We thank You for this awesome study on Your Miracles –the time we’ve spent together for learning and fellowship – but most of all - the time spent with You. We praise You and thank You in Jesus' name. - Amen!

*Thank you everyone and to our Study leaders for such a fun and great study – We want to especially thank Gary Inrig – for his beautiful insights - they - really made us think and look at Christ’s miracles differently!
But most of all we thank You Holy Spirit (our God) -who led us every step of the way -
into all truth! - Amen!*