



I want to remind you of the **good news** I proclaimed to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. ² By this **good news you are saved**, if you hold firmly to the word I proclaimed to you. Otherwise, you have believed

in vain. ³ For what I received I passed on to you as of **first importance**: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, ⁴ that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures. 1 Corinthians 15:1-4 NIV

[For Messiah sent me] to proclaim the **Good News** —**not with wisdom and eloquence**, lest the cross of Messiah be emptied of its power. ¹⁸ For **the message of the cross** is **foolishness** to those who are **perishing**, but to us who are **being saved** it is **the power of God**. 1 Corinthians 1:17-18 CAT

The Powerful Message of the Cross...

1. gives us reconciliation to God.

While we were God's enemies, **we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son**, how much more, having been **reconciled**, shall we be saved through his life! Romans 5:10b NIV

2. gives us peace and healing.

But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that **brought us peace** was on him, and **by his wounds we are healed**. ⁶ We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. ⁷ He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; he was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth. Isaiah 53:5-7

3. gives us His example to follow.

To this you were called, because **Christ suffered for you**, leaving you **an example, that you should follow in his steps**. ²² "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." ²³ When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. ²⁴ "**He himself bore our sins**" in his body on the cross, so that we might die to **sins and live for righteousness; "by his wounds you have been healed**." ²⁵ For "you were like sheep going astray," but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls. 1 Peter 2:24 NIV

4. gives us God's love.

This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. 1 John 3:16 NIV See Romans 5:8

The Powerful Message of the Resurrection...

1. gives us eternal life.

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; ²⁶ and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?" John 11:25-26 NIV See John 17:3

2. gives us hope of our resurrection.

If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. ¹⁴ And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith... ¹⁶ For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised either. ¹⁷ **And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins.** 1 Corinthians 15:13-14,16-17 NIV

3. gives us a living hope.

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy **he has given us new birth into a living hope** through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 1 Peter 1:3 NIV

The Powerful Message of the Cross and Resurrection Calls Us to Respond!

"But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?" Peter answered, "**God's Messiah**." ²¹ Jesus strictly warned them not to tell this to anyone. ²² He said, "**The Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected** by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and he must **be killed and on the third day be raised to life**." ²³ Then he said to them all: "**Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me**." ²⁴ For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will save it. ²⁵ What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, and yet lose or forfeit their very self? ²⁶ Whoever is ashamed of me and my words, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his glory and in the glory of the Father and of the holy angels. Luke 9:22-26 NIV

Therefore encourage one another with these words.
1 Thessalonians 4:18 NIV