

A Word from Our Preaching Pastor:

Sunday, April 4, 2010

"He is not here, for He has risen, just as He said"

Matthew 28:6

It's a supreme joy to be able to welcome each of you here this morning! I can think of no greater cause for rejoicing than to have this privilege of celebrating the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead with our Rockport church family today. I really mean that.

For us as believers everything in life comes down to this one event that we are privileged to celebrate each Sunday. In fact, I don't think it's going too far too say that our faith stands or falls on the validity of this one thing – that Christ really has risen bodily out of the grave! The apostle Paul said as much in 1 Corinthians 15:17. Writing to those who questioned the possibility of a man rising physically from the dead, he said, *"If Christ has not been raised, then your faith is worthless and you are still in your sins."* But then he adds, *"But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead"* (v 20) so that *"Death is swallowed up in victory"* (v 54) and we can sing with great joy, *"Where, O death, is your victory? And where, O grave, is your sting?"* (v 55)

For those of us who know, in a real and personal way, the power of Jesus' resurrection at work in our lives, the joy of such songs comes easy! How I pray that you will sing this truth with a full and grateful heart this morning – a heart made glad by the knowledge that because of what Christ has done death has been emptied of its power, sin has lost its grip, and Jesus is Lord of all! If not, why not ask someone here to share with you how you can come to know the joy of a having your life set free by the power of the resurrected Christ!!

Celebrating that Joy that is ours in Him,

Pastor Scott Lee

*PS - For those of you who don't have lunch plans, please join us for a Rockport Family Fellowship meal immediately after the service. Also, don't forget that **Camp Meeting** begins a week from Thursday – **April 15th - 18th** .*