GICF Sunday, 8 April 2012 (Easter)

**Truth or Dare**

**Do you believe the truth or will you dare not to?**

**Did Jesus really rise from the dead?**

**Matthew 27:62-65**

**Matthew 28: 1-15 this saying is commonly reported among the Jews until this day.**

* ‘He did not rise’
* One of the worst lies in history! - “The disciples stole the body”
* Tell the truth or do a dare ? They dared!

**Some other ‘dares’**

1. Jesus was just
   1. a good man and
   2. a good teacher
   3. a prophet
   4. a good example
   5. a wise man.

John 14:6. Jesus said, “I am the way the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father but by me.”

Is this the truth? Do you ‘dare’ not to believe it? (What’s the dare?)

1. All roads lead to God, don’t they? What’s the difference?

* I John 5:12 . He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life.”

Is this the truth? Do you ‘dare’ not to believe it? (What’s the dare?)

**Reasons to take the dare rather than believe the truth**

1. **Fear**
2. **Pride**
3. **Tough times**

Answers to these reasons

1. **“I will never leave you” Jesus**
2. **“Without me you can do nothing”**
3. **“God himself will wipe away all tears from their eyes.”**

**WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE?**

**What’s the dare?**

* IF life has meaning,
* IF you were created by a real, personal, loving God,
* IF the crucifixion really means Jesus died in your place,
* IF Jesus really rose from the dead…

**THE DARE – Do Nothing (choose not to believe)**

**but it means you will be…**

* Wasting your years here
* Racing towards an eternity without your Creator
* The most pitiable of all creatures
* **Your life is empty until you have visited His empty tomb**

**So where is His body?**

* Here! He lives in us and …
* We are His body
* Ephesians 4 – all the parts of His body belong together and have a job to do. Believing that he really rose means you can join a new family
* **Even if you are a believer already, a life that is not lived for Jesus is a life wasted.**
* **Have you been to the empty tomb yet?**
* **Can you still dare to believe the lie?** See His empty tomb, your tomb, and believe.

**Christ the Lord is risen!**

**He is risen indeed!**