

high school



April 12, 2020

# Hard to Believe?

By Frieda Nossaman

for use as  
**STEP 1**



## Focus:

We can believe Jesus' resurrection was real.

## Bible Basis:

1 Corinthians 15:3-8,  
12-19

## Memory Verse:

By his power God raised the Lord from the dead, and he will raise us also.  
—1 Corinthians 6:14

**Students will watch a video about hard-to-believe facts as an introduction to a lesson on Jesus' hard-to-believe-but-true resurrection.**

## Materials:

None

As students join your group today, share a bizarre but true event that happened to you. If you do not have a story, feel free to share one or both of the following true examples that happened to friends of this Real Life Downloaded lesson author, provided here:

- A widowed young man sought out a female companion online only to find that she and his deceased wife had at one time been bridesmaids together at a wedding of a mutual friend.
- Two high school friends who hadn't seen each other in 20 years realized on a road trip that they were both pumping gasoline next to each other in a state where neither of them lived...but both of them just happened to be passing through on a family vacation!

If time permits, invite your students to share hard-to-believe stories of their own with the rest of the group.

➤ **What Christians believe to be God-ordained encounters many people like to call "coincidences." Why do you think this is so?** (Answers will vary. Students may observe that some people don't believe in God or don't believe in a God who is actively involved in people's lives.)

**The following video clip is about bizarre facts that are hard to believe. They are true though. We'll discuss later about what was hardest to believe!**

Share the following video [3:49]:

25 Unbelievably Hard to Believe Facts

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CwiyBI6reKc>

- **What hard-to-believe fact did you find most surprising?** (Answers will vary.)
- **Why do you think we don't know more about many of these bizarre facts?** (Accept all reasonable answers; there are no wrong answers.)

**Learning interesting facts is just that: Interesting!**

**However, believing bizarre facts about a risen Jesus—today's lesson topic—is more than interesting. It leads to a changed life, a faith in God who is in heaven, and awareness of how important it is to share this hard-to-believe, yet life-changing story with others. Let's look into it.**

(Continue on to Steps 2 and 3 in your teacher's guide; your Step 4 appears below.)

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# Hard to Believe?

for use as

STEP 4 **Focus:**

We can believe Jesus' resurrection was real.

**Bible Basis:**

1 Corinthians 15:3-8,  
12-19

**Memory Verse:**

By his power God raised the Lord from the dead, and he will raise us also.  
—1 Corinthians 6:14

**Materials:**

- Internet access
- Index cards
- Pens/pencils

**The facts related to the resurrection of Jesus are mentioned by the apostle Paul in his letter to the Corinthians. Included in his “proof” is the fact that more than 500 people witnessed the resurrected Jesus. That’s a lot of people and great validation to what seemed a bizarre story to some.**

**After Paul listed all of the people who witnessed the resurrected Jesus, he threw himself in last as a witness of the event.**

➤ **Which of the encounters Jesus had with people on Paul’s list do you find the most compelling? Why?** (Students may comment on the large number who saw Him at one time, or the fact that Paul was such an adamant nonbeliever prior to his Damascus road experience.)

Have students look up today’s memory verse, “By his power God raised the Lord from the dead, and he will raise us also” (1 Corinthians 6:14).

Ask your students to write the following on an index card or piece of paper: *God raised the Lord from the dead, and He will raise \_\_\_\_\_, also* (1 Corinthians 6:14). Encourage each student to write their name in the blank on their index card.

➤ **In times of uncertainty like what we’ve been facing with the coronavirus, how can these words encourage us?** (Allow students to share; some may mention finding it comforting that God is in control over death, that He has a plan and future for us, etc.)

Make yourself available to meet with any student who expresses a desire to talk with someone about salvation. Use this week as an opportunity to get more directly connected with your students via emails, texts, and/or video chats. Challenge your students to reach out to their friends using these methods to share the Gospel. Encourage them in the fact that this unprecedented circumstance is a unique opportunity where people are open to the Gospel as never before.

End your time together thanking Jesus for His resurrection and the life it brings to us.

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