

“Graves into Gardens: The Resilience of the Resurrection.”

Easter Sunday, April 20, 2025

Text: 2 Cor 5:1-17

Sermon Series: “The Resilient Life.”

Pastor Dave Hentschel

Intro: He turns graves into gardens.

The resurrection of Jesus is not only historical—it’s deeply personal.

I. Face your Mortality. (v. 1–8)

- Life in this body is temporary—Paul calls it a “tent,” not a permanent house.
- We groan now, but we groan with hope, longing for what’s eternal.

II. Examine your Morality. (v. 9–11)

- We make it our aim to please Him—resurrection motivates obedience.
- A coming judgment sobers us—it matters how we live.

III. Change your Mentality. (v. 12-15)

- Resurrection reorients our motives—we no longer live for ourselves.
- Christ’s love controls us—He died and rose so we would live differently.

IV. Embrace your New Reality. (v. 16–17)

- In Christ, we are a new creation—the old is gone!
- Jesus didn’t come to make bad people good; He came to make dead people live.

Life Application: The resurrection of Jesus Christ means your story is not defined by the grave but by the garden.