The Resurrection of Jesus
Mark 16:1-20

I. In 1937 Amelia Earhart attempted to fly around the world by plane. She completed all but 7,000 miles of her journey. But, on July 2nd before making her next stop on Howland Island her plane disappeared.

II. If you saw a news story today about a woman who had been found stranded on an island and that woman claimed to be Amelia Earhart would you believe her claim?

III. If you didn’t believe her, what would it take to convince you that she was Amelia Earhart What evidence would you want.
   Blood Test
   DNA
   The wrecked airplane

IV. Let me ask you another question. What if you were living in the first century and someone made the claim that they were the Son of God and that they came to save you from our sins; would you believe that person? What evidence would you want before you believed this claim?

V. In Mark 1:1, this claim was made about Jesus when Mark wrote, “The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.”

VI. Living in the first century would you believe this claim?

VII. Consider this as well, the importance of believing this claim cannot be overstated, Acts 4:12, John 11:25,26

VIII. Our response to the claim that Jesus is the Son of God is a life and death matter.

IX. This morning I want us to consider some facts about the life of Jesus that should persuade us that Jesus was who He claimed to be. These facts culminate with His resurrection.

Trans: Let’s begin by pointing out some facts about Jesus as presented in Mark

1. Marks Evidence that Jesus is the Son of God
   1. The testimony of others.
      a. Isaiah, Mark 1:2-3
      b. John the Baptist, Mark 1:4-8
      c. The Father, Mark 1:11

   2. The miracles of Jesus.
      a. Casting out demons, Mark 1:22-26
b. Healing the multitudes with various diseases, Mark 1:34  
c. He could calm the winds and sea, Mark 4:35-41  
d. He raised Jairus’ daughter from the dead, Mark 5:21-43  

3. Jesus’ Teachings.  
a. Mark 1:21,22,27

Appl: All of these evidences are provided to show us that Jesus is the Son of God.  

Trans: But there is another event that proves Jesus is the Son of God.  

2. The resurrection proves Jesus to be who He claimed.  
A. Jesus had made the claim that he was the Son of God, John 10:36

B. If this claim is found to be false then Jesus himself is found to be liar, Deut. 18:22.

C. Whether or not Jesus is the Son of God hinges on is the claim of the resurrection. This final step to the life of Jesus is the resurrection proves Him to be who He claimed.

D. What support do we have for this claim?  
   (1) The friends of Jesus said that he rose from the dead, Mark 16:9-14.
   (2) The enemies of Jesus said the body was stolen, Matt. 28:11-15  
      (a) The witnesses of the theft of the body were the Roman soldiers on guard at the tomb where the body was placed after the crucifixion.  
      (b) The soldiers claim to have been asleep when the body was stolen.  
      (c) If true, how could they have known what happened to the body?  
   (3) The resurrection of Jesus was then corroborated to by a multitude of witnesses, 1Cor. 15:3-9

D. It’s this resurrection that put the final stamp of truth on all of His claims, Rom. 1:1-4

3. It’s because of the resurrection that we have hope.  
A. Consider Peters words in 1Peter 3:15

B. Without the resurrection life is a futile existence, 1Cor. 15:32.

E. But because we know the resurrection to be true, we can prove we have hope in the life we live, 1Cor. 15:13-19
F. I stated at the beginning of this lesson that the resurrection of Jesus changed the history of mankind for all time. I then listed the ways it changed mankind's history:

1. It provided man with something that he never had before, *John 6:40*
2. It gave man something he never had before, *1Pet. 1:3*
3. It changed the way man would view his life and his future, *Phil. 3:7-14*

**Appl:** There are some things that happen in our lives which cause us to change something we are doing; but what is there that is so overpowering that it would lead millions to change their entire life?

It is the resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Without question these claims are true, and so we have the greatest hope of all time. A hope so powerful it will lead us to change our lives completely.

**Con:** So, what is your response to the claims of Jesus?

We can either respond to Jesus by believing who He is through the evidences and be obedient to His will, or we can reject it in the face of clear evidence.