



EASTER

AT NORTHEAST

Mary

Snowy Buffalo

\$40k

65yrs old

Minority

Dialysis

Overweight

Plain Appearance

Highly Sociable

Very involved at Church

Bob

Sunny So.Cal

\$100k+

Middle-Aged

White

Athletic

Attractive

Intellectual Type

Avid Reader

Loves Museums






Financial Comfort Good Job Epic Kids
Good Health Regular Fun Romantic Fulfillment
Public Recognition

“Bob seems to have it all,
and few readers of this book
would prefer Mary’s life to his.
Yet if you had to bet on it,
you should bet that Mary
is happier than Bob.”

- Jonathan Haidt
The Happiness Hypothesis






“If one could conceive of a single elixir to improve the physical and mental health of millions of Americans – at no personal cost – what value would our society place on it? Going a step further, if research quite conclusively showed that when consumed just once a week, this concoction would reduce mortality by 20% to 30% over a 15-year period, how urgently would we want to make it publicly available.



The good news is that this miracle drug — religion, and more specifically regular church attendance — is already in reach of most Americans. In fact, there's a good chance it's just a short drive away.”

- Religion May Be A Miracle Drug

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- Reduced mortality rates by 20-30%
 - Increased optimism
 - Lowered rates of depression
 - Less likely to commit suicide
 - Greater purpose in life
 - Less likely to divorce
 - More self-control/accountability
 - Less loneliness
 - Less likely to smoke

Our culture provides us
with many resources to
avoid suffering.



Our culture provides us with many resources to avoid suffering.

Christianity provides us with the resources to overcome it.



Our cultural vision is to make
your standard of life better.

The Christian vision is to
prepare you for life better.




Living Hope

A hope in the future
based on an event in the past
that changes us in the present.



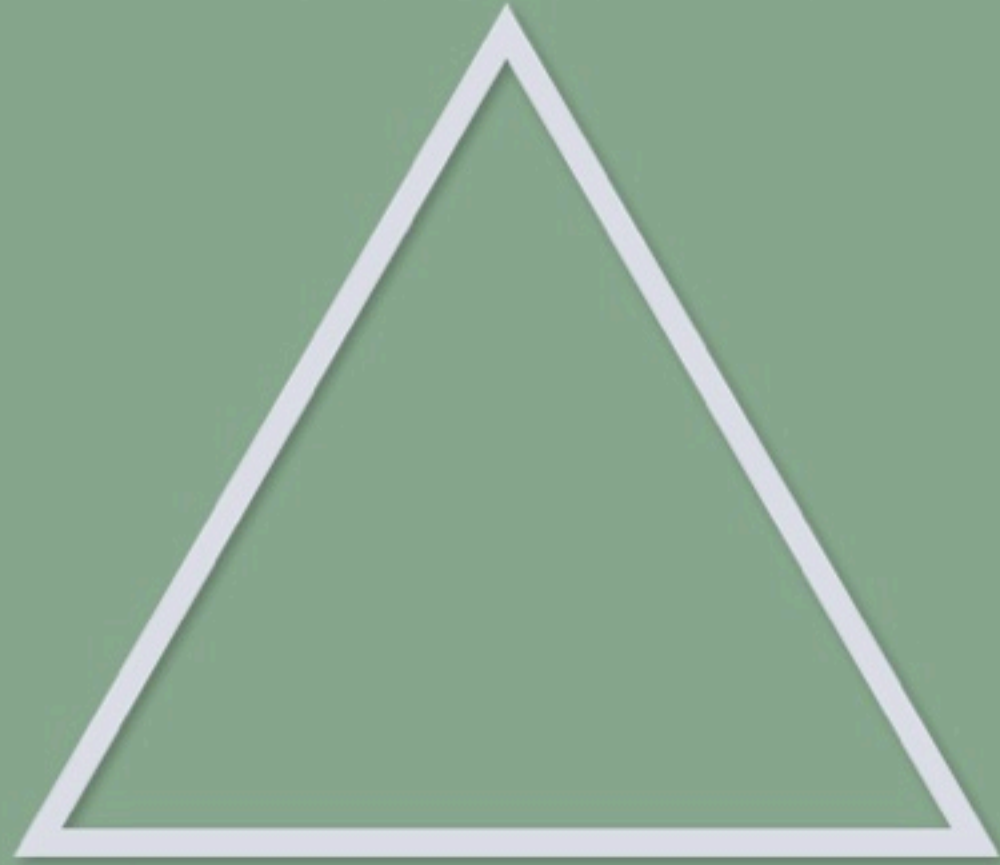
1 Corinthians 15:1-4

Let me now remind you of the **Good News [euangelion - Gospel]** I preached to you before. It is this **Good News [euangelion - Gospel]** that saves you if you continue to believe the message I told you...Christ died for our sins, just as the Scriptures said. He was buried, and He was raised from the dead on the third day, just as the Scriptures said.



“In the US... I encountered a society that seeks to avoid pain at all costs. Patients lived at a greater comfort level than any I had previously treated, but they seemed far less equipped to handle suffering and far more traumatized by it.” - **Dr. Paul Brand, MD**

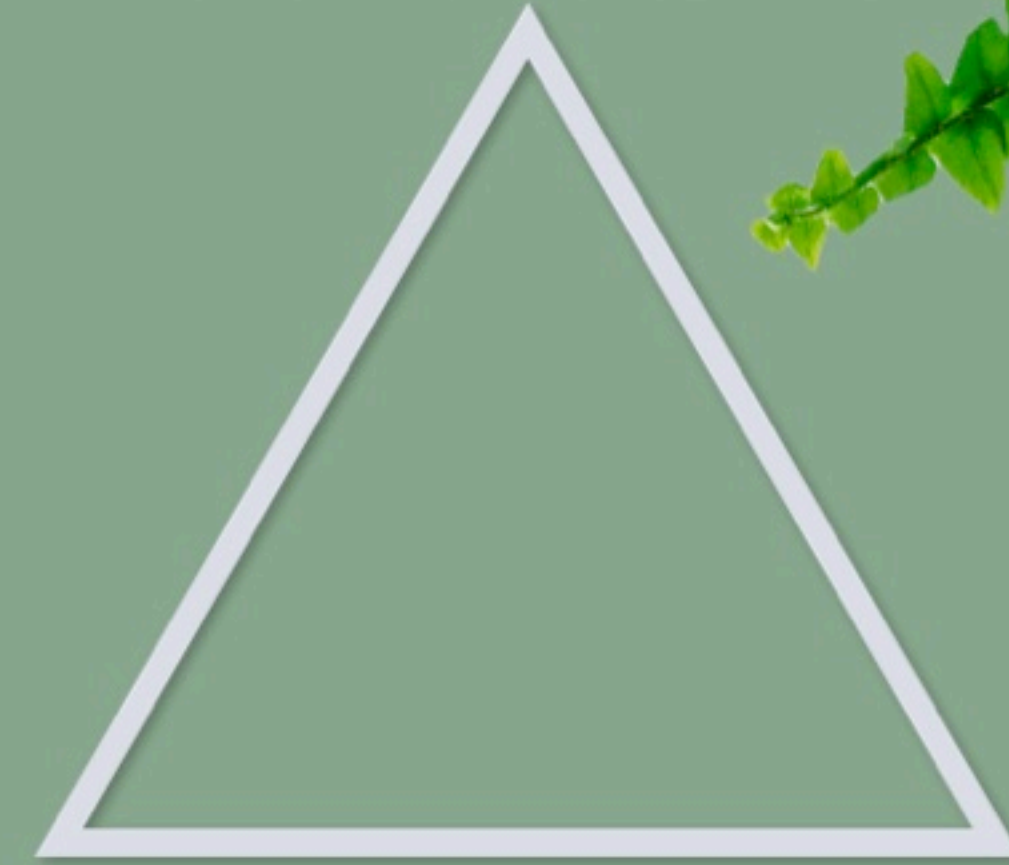
Medicine



Technology

Science

Politicians



Platforms

Parties

Wealth



Economic
Prosperity

Success

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Luke 24:1-9

But very early on Sunday morning the women went to the tomb, taking the spices they had prepared. They found that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance. So they went in, but they didn't find the body of the Lord Jesus. As they stood there puzzled, two men suddenly appeared to them, clothed in dazzling robes. The women were terrified and bowed with their faces to the ground.

Luke 24:1-9

Then the men asked, “Why are you looking among the dead for someone who is alive? He isn’t here! He is risen from the dead! Remember what He told you back in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be betrayed into the hands of sinful men and be crucified, and that He would rise again on the third day.” Then they remembered that He had said this. So they rushed back from the tomb to tell His eleven disciples—and everyone else—what had happened.

He is risen.
He is risen, indeed!



He gone.
Yea, He gone!



1 Corinthians 15:54-58

Then, when our dying bodies have been transformed into bodies that will never die, this Scripture will be fulfilled: “Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?” For sin is the sting that results in death, and the law gives sin its power. But thank God! He gives us victory over sin and death through our Lord Jesus Christ.

So... my dear brothers and sisters, be strong and immovable. Always work enthusiastically for the Lord, for you know that nothing you do for the Lord is ever useless.

1 Corinthians 15:58

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My dear brothers and sisters, be strong and immovable. Always work enthusiastically for the Lord, for you know that nothing you do for the Lord is ever useless.

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER



And all the Saints pray together:

We believe **in life after death.**

We believe **in life after life after death.**

We believe **in life before death.**

He is risen. **We are risen.**

He is coming. **We will rise.**

He gave his life. **We give our lives.**

In Jesus' name we pray, **Amen.**