

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Today, as we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ, I would like us to reflect on the theme of freedom and justice, particularly concerning the welfare of farmed animals, specifically egg-laying hens in battery cages. God is very specific in His allocation of food for his creatures and that this is linked to the idea of mutual care and consideration. To treat life as if it were an industrial process demeans it and disregards the sacred nature of life as a whole. The Easter message of hope and renewal extends not only to humanity but also to all of God's creation, including the animals entrusted to our care.

Here are a few notes for us to remember:

- **Understanding Battery Cages:**  
Battery cages are small, restrictive enclosures where hens are confined for egg production, often causing immense suffering and deprivation of natural behaviors such as dust bathing and foraging. As stewards of creation, we are called to consider the ethical implications of such confinement and advocate for compassionate alternatives (Proverbs 12:10).
- **Resurrection Hope for All Creation:**  
The resurrection of Jesus brings hope not only for humanity but also for the redemption and restoration of all creation (Romans 8:19-21). This includes advocating for the well-being of animals and ensuring they are treated with dignity and compassion.
- **Compassion and Justice:**  
The call to end battery cages aligns with God's heart for justice and mercy (Micah 6:8). As followers of Christ, we are called to show compassion not only to humans but also to animals, seeking to alleviate their suffering and improve their living conditions.
- **We have the power to make ethical choices in our consumption habits,** including supporting cage-free and humane egg production practices. Our choices reflect our commitment to upholding God's values of love, compassion, and stewardship as (Genesis 1:26-28) clearly states.
- **Working Towards Change:**  
Let's actively engage in efforts to end the use of battery cages, advocating for legislation, supporting organizations promoting animal welfare, and making informed consumer choices. Our collective actions can make a significant impact in creating a more compassionate and just world for all God's creatures. Hens may not have a voice, but we do!

In conclusion, as we rejoice in the resurrection of Jesus, let's also renew our commitment to uphold the sanctity of life and promote compassion for animals.

May our Easter celebration inspire us to work towards ending the confinement of battery cages, reflecting God's love and justice in all aspects of our lives. Let's pray for wisdom, courage, and compassion as we strive to be faithful stewards of God's creation.

In Jesus' name, Amen!