

Group Discussion Guide: Easter!

Opening Question - What was your favorite moment from Easter Weekend?

The day that changed everything!

Read John 20:1-18 and listen carefully. I know you have probably heard this passage many times before, but what stands out to you from this reading? What new details did you see or insights did you hear?

Even though both the Old Testament Scriptures and Jesus himself predicted his death and resurrection everyone was surprised when the tomb was empty! Why do you think people were so shocked Jesus rose from the dead even though He told them this would happen?

Both in Jesus' time and today people are often guilty of worshiping a fake Jesus that is really close to the real one, but just a little off. Many times we do this by making Jesus look and think just like us. What are ways in which we or the world have embraced a fake, dead Jesus?

<u>Go and Tell!</u>

Jesus tells Mary, "Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" Once we encounter the empty tomb and the risen Jesus He changes everything. We are all sent out to share this good news with others! When we encounter the risen savior we cannot keep it to ourselves, instead we are called to share!

The first evangelists were women. Why is this so surprising and a powerful proof of the resurrection?

On a scale of 1-10 how confident are you in sharing the Gospel and why? What are the biggest challenges or roadblocks for you sharing your faith with others?

When was the last time you shared the Gospel with someone? How did you feel when sharing and how was it received?

If the tomb is empty, everything has changed, sin and death have been defeated. We, just like Mary, should be filled with both fear and joy that compels us to go out and share the good news with others. Sharing our faith isn't optional, we are Christ's ambassadors, and He has chosen to make his appeal to others through us. (2 Cor 5:18-20)

Who is one person you feel called to share the good news of Easter with this week?