



Group Discussion Guide: Easter!

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

Personal Answer - Could be anything from a spiritual realization to time spent with Family

The day that changed everything!

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

Personal Answer

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

Jesus foretold his death, suffering, and resurrection at least three times, but his followers never truly heard Him or understood His teaching. We all know there it's one thing to hear about something, and it's an entirely different thing to experience it firsthand! The disciples and the women thought they would arrive to a dead Jesus. A resurrected savior was something so radical and new they couldn't even comprehend it! They had never seen anything like this before.

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?

If Jesus agrees with you on everything, always has the same political opinions, only likes the people you like, always compliments you and never calls you out, you are worshiping a fake Jesus.

Many in the world worship just the “wise teacher Jesus” or an all loving and no truth Jesus. These are an incomplete version of Who he is, and if we are just a little off it can really affect our theology. A Jesus who isn’t God, didn’t die, and didn’t rise from the dead cannot save you.

Go and Tell!

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 all called to become evangelists!

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

In Jesus’ time women did not have the same authority as men. For example, in court a woman’s testimony would not be given the same respect. If someone was making up a story about the resurrection they would never have women be the first people at the tomb! Having women be there would automatically discredit the story, yet that is what happened. The unlikely truth that women were the first evangelists actually adds more credence to the resurrection!

To be an evangelist today you do not have to be a pastor or a PhD! Anyone can share, you just have to be willing to go wherever Jesus leads!

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?

Personal Answer

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

Personal Answer

If the tomb is empty, everything has changed, sin and death have been defeated for good! 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) - [if you have time read this passage](#)

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

Personal Answer. After everyone answers, spend time in prayer asking God to give us opportunities and boldness to share!