

EASTER SUNDAY

Life Group Notes



CONNECT QUESTIONS

What is the best way of eating chocolate?

What is the best thing you have ever done at Easter?

Luke 24:1-8. On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, **“Why do you look for the living among the dead?** He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: ‘The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.’” Then they remembered his words.

Easter is all about celebrating the victory that Jesus won through his death and resurrection. Jesus rose from the dead to fulfill all that he had said would take place. He also rose from the dead to conquer death! The devil no longer holds the keys to his own house – Jesus took them from him! What does Easter mean to you?

Check out **Philippians 3:10**. In this verse, Paul was praying that the people of Ephesus would know and EXPERIENCE the power of God – the same power that raised Christ from the dead! Have you ever experienced this power? What do you know about this power that is available to all Christ’s followers?

This Easter we considered the women of Galilee. They were present with Jesus throughout his ministry, and were familiar with his teachings and had witnessed his miracle-working power. They also saw their Christ nailed to a cross. How do you think these women must have been feeling? What do you think their response should have been?

Check **Luke 23:44 – 24:7**. Jesus died on the Friday night. However, this was not the end of the story. We can learn from the women from Galilee – what we do in the waiting period is dictated by our beliefs. Ultimately Easter reminds us that God keeps his promises. However, when challenges come, how do we respond? The first response of the women from Galilee was to buy and prepare spices and anointing oils to prepare Jesus' body for burial. They were doing the right things from a cultural perspective – and their motivation was to honour Jesus – but they forgot what Jesus had said. Do you think they would have spent the time, money and effort on something that was unnecessary? How about us – are we responding in faith to God's promises, or are we spending time and effort (and maybe even money) on things that ultimately are not needed?

The women of Galilee knew the words Jesus had spoken – however in a moment of crisis they forgot his words. We too should know God's word – however it is another thing to hang onto His promises when our world may be falling apart. Do you know anyone (or perhaps you yourself) that has experienced tragedy or reversals but remained faithful to Jesus – what stands out to you from their stories?

The second thing the women from Galilee did was nothing! It was the Sabbath, and so as was the custom of the day – they did nothing. How about us – how are we living in the light of the Great Commission? Check out **Matthew 28:18-20**. Do we really believe that Jesus is coming back? What are we doing to fulfill his command to us?

Finally, the women from Galilee went looking in the tomb for Jesus – and the angel reproofed them by asking why they were looking for the living amongst the dead! Easter is about death working backwards! Jesus wants to restore! Check out **John 11:25-26** and **Ephesians 1:19-20**. Where do you need to see the power of God working in your life?

PRAYER

Pray for one another = that we would know and experience the power of God!

Pray for one another to be active and engaged in the Great Commission.