

QUESTIONS *for* VIRTUAL SMALL GROUPS

EASTER
APRIL 11/12

ICE BREAKERS:

- What Easter traditions did you have as a child? What did it look like this year?
- What are some of the doubts you have or that you hear people share about Jesus?

LAUNCH QUESTIONS:

- Dave said “one thing missing ... makes all the difference between something you enjoy and a fire.” Can you think of an example of this in your own life? (i.e. recipe, trip planning, relationship, job experience)
- What was the worst physical pain you have been in? Would you go through that pain again for an enemy?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Were any of the pieces of evidence of the resurrection intriguing to you? (i.e. Why would someone die to prop up a lie? Opponents of Jesus conceding to the resurrection, 5800 copies of the new testament compared to 8 copies of other trusted documents)
- Read Luke 24:1-12. Why do you think everyone forgot about the words Jesus spoke about being crucified and raised from the dead? As you’ve gone through difficult times, what biblical truths did you need to remember?
- Read John 20:15-16. Mary was weeping over what she had lost, and we see Jesus come and comfort her. What have you been weeping over in this season? How has Jesus met you in that pain?
- John 15:13 states “Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.” In light of what you’ve learned about Jesus crucifixion and resurrection this weekend, what does this verse mean to you?

- The resurrection story is supernatural. Have you had supernatural experiences or witnessed miracles in your life? Maybe not as big as resurrection but in smaller ways?
- Something happens when you believe in the resurrection. When was the last time you marveled at who God is?

PRAYER IDEAS:

Depending on how your group responds to some of the questions, tailor your prayer to your discussions. Here are some examples:

- Thank God for who He is and what he has done on the Cross!
- The hope of Easter is that even when it all comes crashing down and it feels like hope is lost, Jesus is on the other side reminding us by name that circumstances are not final and hope not lost. He's with us personally. Pray and thank Him for these truths and ask him to reveal the places you have lost hope and to restore you.
- Pray for your friends and family that do not know Jesus by name.

SENDING CHALLENGE:

- Luke 24:5-6 states "Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen." We often put things that are "dead" in front of Jesus. Idols are not necessarily golden calves but are anything we place as more important than Jesus in our lives. John Calvin said ""The human heart is a perpetual idol factory." There's a lot of truth to that. Spend some time in prayer and ask God to reveal to you what "idols" are present in your life. Ask His help to put your life in order and determine practical ways to make that happen.
- Our relationship with Jesus and the things He frees us of are meant to be shared with others. If Mary and the disciples did not share what they had seen, where would we be today? As you spend time this week removing idols, would you be brave enough to tell a non-believing friend what Jesus is doing in your life during this time?