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EASTER

EASTER CHANGES EVERYTHING

The First Disciples Before The Resurrection

“At that point, **all** the disciples **deserted him and fled.**”
Matthew 26:56

“Peter... began to call down curses on himself and **he swore to them, “I don’t know the man!”** Matthew 23:74

“On the evening of that first day of the week. . .the disciples were together, **with the doors locked for fear. . .**”
John 20:19

The First Disciples After The Resurrection

“Peter said, ‘You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead. And **we are witnesses of this fact!**’”
Acts 3:15

“I passed on to you what was most important and what had also been passed on to me. **Christ died for our sins**, just as the Scriptures said. **He was buried, and he was raised from the dead on the third day**, just as the Scriptures said. He was seen by **Peter** and then by **the Twelve**. After that, he was seen by **more than 500** of his followers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he was seen by **James** and later by all the apostles. Last of all, as though I had been born at the wrong time, **I also saw him.**”
1 Corinthians 15:3-8

HOW DID PETER FIND FORGIVENESS?

John 21

1. He _____, Forgiveness _____ !

2. He Came Face To A Face With The _____
_____ of a _____

3. He Understood The Need To _____
A _____

Who Is Jesus Christ To You?

Memory Verse

“ If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.”
Romans 10:9

MY NEXT STEP IS TO. . .

- Receive forgiveness from the risen Lord Jesus for the 1st time
- Memorize Romans 10:9
- Commit to attend as much as possible each weekend during the “Forgiveness” series
- Get the most out of today’s teaching by participating in a Life Group this week
- Participate in the Annual ERBC Spiritual Survey



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Discussion Questions - Week #1

LIFEGROUPS

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

- This week is the 1st week of our spring quarter of Life Group. What is your favorite thing about the season of spring and why? (warm weather, flowers blooming, the return of baseball, NBA playoffs, etc.)
- What are your favorite Easter traditions?
- If you could have an Easter basket filled one type of candy, what would it be?
- Looking back at your notes from this weekend's teaching, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. In the message this weekend Pastor Rick preached on the transforming power of Christ's resurrection. Read 2 Corinthians 5:14-21. What stands out to you most from this passage?

What are the different ways this passage declares that we have been changed?

Why is it that if the new creation truly has come, we still get caught in some of our old ways?

What evidence of the new creation do you see in your life? Do you think others can see it in you too? Why or why not?

2. One of the main points from the message this weekend was that meeting the risen Christ changes everything. That was certainly true in the life of the Apostle Paul. Read Acts 22:1-21. How did Paul's encounter with the risen Christ change everything for him?

Has the risen Christ changed everything for you? If so, how?

Would you describe your conversion story as a process or more of an event as it was for Paul?

Do you think you could briefly share the difference Christ has made in your life if someone asked?

Do you think it's important to be able to do so?

3. Read Colossians 3:1-14. What role do we play in the process of our own transformation?

Is there anything in your life that belongs to the old self of which you need to rid yourself?

How do we clothe ourselves with those things listed in v.12-14?

How does knowing that you've been forgiven and Christ dwells within you help you to live out this process?

TAKING IT HOME

☞ What is one thing in your life that you would like your LIFE Group to pray for you regularly this Life Group quarter?

PRAYER REQUESTS