

EASTER

WITH CALVARY

HomeGroup Discussion Questions

Easter 2021, April 3rd-9th

He is risen! For Christ-followers, Easter Sunday is the most glorious day this side of our Lord's return. It is our hope and we believe by faith that it is a preview of our future. Let's slow down this week, quiet our hearts and minds, and consider both the significance and the consequence of the Resurrection for our lives and the life of our church. **He is risen indeed!**

CONNECT

1. What personal significance does Easter or all of Holy Week (i.e., the events of Palm Sunday, the Last Supper and betrayal, Good Friday, Resurrection Sunday) have for you?
2. What stood out to you in this week's sermon? What questions or thoughts did it raise in your mind?

LEARN & APPLY

3. Consider this claim: "The foundation of Christianity is the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead." What do you think this means and do you agree? Why or why not?
4. Retired Pastor Tim Keller wrote the following in *The Reason for God: Belief in an Age of Skepticism*:
"If Jesus rose from the dead, then you have to accept all that he said; if he didn't rise from the dead, then why worry about any of what he said? The issue on which everything hangs is not whether or not you like his teaching but whether or not he rose from the dead."
How does (or should) the resurrection of Jesus challenge us to "accept all that he said"?
5. Pastor Tom mentioned a number of signs, or witnesses, of God at work in the death of Jesus. The sky was darkened, the veil was torn, the earth shook, the tombs opened, and the dead were raised (see Matthew 27:45-53). Why do you think these occurred around the time of the death and resurrection of Jesus? Are any of them especially significant to you? Why?
6. The apostle Paul says in 1 Corinthians 15 that the risen Jesus appeared to his disciples and then to "more than five hundred brothers at one time" (vv. 5-6). Why do you think it's important there were so many eyewitnesses to Jesus' resurrected state?

7. Through faith in Jesus, God makes us alive as well (Ephesians 2:1-10). How does the resurrection of Jesus help you live by faith, even in these difficult days?

Take time to pray for each other, asking God's Spirit to comfort, encourage, and strengthen us with the good news of what God has accomplished through His Son.