



EASTER

Easter 2020 | 04.11-12.2020

Grow Deep Conversation Questions: Use these questions to help you process the message in your personal time of study or with your group. Time suggestions are based on a 90 minute group gathering.

Message Recap: Jesus' life, ministry, death and resurrection affected His family, friends, and enemies in different and powerful ways.

» Opening (2-3 minutes)

- Introductions - this is especially important if this is your first meeting and if there are new members
- Housekeeping - clarify expectations
 - **Announcements:** These are in your Community News email. **Please read and communicate! Encourage participation!**
 - Remind your group that this is a confidential meeting
 - **Remember there may be many thoughts and views. Please remain kind and respectful during conversations.**
- Pray - open your time together in prayer

» Introduction (12 minutes)

- Ice-Breaker: What is your favorite Easter candy of all time?
- Digging Deeper: Of the four perspectives mentioned, who do you relate to the most? Why do you think that is?

» Observation | Read Matthew 28:1-10; 1Corinthians 15:1-7; James 1:16-18; 1 Corinthians 15:8-11 (12 minutes)

- What are your initial reactions to these passages? What do you find challenging? Are you encouraged by any of these verses? Why?

» Mary - Jesus' Mother | Reread Matthew 28:1-10 (12 minutes)

- What was the significance of the women going to the tomb alone? What might Mary have been hoping for as she walked there?
- What impossible expectations do you hope for now? Why can we have certainty about our eternity when we believe in and follow Jesus?

» Peter - Jesus' Disciple | Reread 1Corinthians 15:1-7; Reference John 21:15-19 (12 minutes)

- Why would Jesus ask Peter 3 times if he loved Him? In what ways did Peter struggle to hand over control of his life to Jesus?
- What control has been taken away from you over the past several weeks? What do you have a hard time believing about Jesus?

» James - Jesus' Brother | Reread James 1:16-18 (12 minutes)

- Why do you think James had a hard time believing Jesus was the Messiah while his brother was alive?
- What does it mean to realize that Jesus' life and resurrection can provide new life for you?

» Paul - Jesus' Enemy and Apostle | Reread 1 Corinthians 15:8-11 (12 minutes)

- Why would Paul refer to himself as the "least of the apostles" and "unworthy to be called an apostle?"
- How could Jesus redeem this current loss of routine, comfort, and false sense of control you've been living with for something good?

» Next Steps and Prayer | Read Romans 6:22-23 (15 minutes)

- If we are followers of Jesus, we have received the free gift of salvation, but it's not just for us. Who is close to you but far from God?
- Close by praying for each other, our community and our world to know and follow Jesus, especially in this time of uncertainty.