

Growth Group Questions

Easter Sunday, April 9, 2023

Introduction

Good Friday sadness turns into Easter joy at the empty tomb. How will you show your “Easter alleluias” in life this week?

Into the Word – Jonah 2:2-9

1. Review the Old Testament account of Jonah and refresh each other on the details. What was Jonah called to do? What did he do instead? Why does God send the big fish?
2. Jonah’s prayer from the belly of the fish is a good model for us. Find law and gospel in this prayer, and then use that to create a prayer as a group.
3. How many different ways can you come up with to explain how “Salvation comes from the Lord.”? (v. 9)

Into the Word – 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

4. This whole chapter is known as the “resurrection” chapter. There’s so much more good stuff than just verses 1-11. Read the rest!
5. Why is the BODILY resurrection of Jesus an absolutely essential doctrine to our salvation?
6. Why is it a comfort to us to hear how many people Jesus appeared to after his resurrection? Use that fact to create a defense of faith against those who say the resurrection was a made-up thing?

7. Why would Paul have considered himself the “least of the apostles”? Was he?

Into the Word – Matthew 28:1-10

8. When was the most recent earthquake in Jerusalem before this one? What happened at that time and what connections do you see?
9. Why did the angel roll the stone away from the tomb?
10. In what ways are we like the women at the tomb, both before and after seeing Jesus?
11. Whenever Jesus appears after his resurrection he tells people either to not be afraid or to have peace. Why are both of those things possible because of Easter?
12. Share your favorite Easter memory with the group.

Closing Prayer

Risen Savior, because you live – we live. Because your rose – we too will rise. Fill us with Easter joy and confidence, and help us to quiet our doubts and fears. Let us stand with the women at the tomb and the disciples in the upper room to marvel at your power and victory. Then help us hold that victory tight to our hearts and share it with those we know and love. Amen!