



Missional Community Discussion
Week of April 16th

Opening thought:

Those living during the days of Jesus believed that he actually rose from the grave because of what was seen and experienced first hand. The story of Jesus and his resurrection was real and it turned their lives upside down, not because they had read the story in the bible but because they had witnessed it personally. I can't imagine the emotions as Mary approached the tomb that morning only to find the body of Jesus missing yet then seeing him ALIVE. When we meet the risen Savior face to face, that encounter has a way of changing us forever.

Questions to discuss:

1. Finish this statement: Growing up, what I remember most about Easter is.....?
2. Are there any Easter traditions from growing up, that you still hold on to and practice as an adult, parent, family? Any reason why?
3. Read John 20:1–18. After hearing the sermon, what parts of this passage seems to captivate or stand out to you? Why do you think these details seem to stand out?
4. We mentioned four things that we can be certain of because of the Resurrection:
 1. God hears and answers our prayers
 2. Heaven and eternity aren't just made up stories
 3. Our obedience and faithfulness will be rewarded.
 4. Jesus is who he claimed to be

Out of these four things that we can be certain of because of the resurrection, which one seems to be most encouraging to you and why?

5. Because of an empty tomb, we can be sure of the resurrection of crucified Jesus and that Hope is available. What is an area that you have felt defeated or discouraged? How does can news of an empty tomb encourage you today? Pray for each other in your group.

Looking ahead:

"Further more, we have seen with our own eyes and now testify that the father sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. 15 All who declare that Jesus is the Son of God have god living in them and they live in God. 16 We know how much God loves us, and we have put our trust in his love." 1 John 4:14-16

Have you placed your trust in Jesus? If you were to die today, do you know without a shadow of doubt that you have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and that you will spend eternity in Heaven with HIM? Because of the resurrection, we can know that there is more to this life than this life. If you don't have a personal relationship with Jesus, what keeps you from making the most important decision of your life today, and choosing to repent of your sins and place your faith in Jesus Christ.

Challenge:

3 All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is by his great mercy that we have been born again, because God raised Jesus Christ from the dead. Now we live with great expectation, 4 and we have a priceless inheritance—an inheritance that is kept in heaven for you, pure and undefiled, beyond the reach of change and decay. 5 And through your faith, God is protecting you by his power until you receive this salvation, which is ready to be revealed on the last day for all to see. 1 Peter 1:3-5 NLT



HERITAGE COMMUNITY CHURCH

April 16, 2017

SERMON SERIES: Characters of the Passion

Today's character: **Mary Magdalene**

Written accounts and testimonies of Jesus's resurrection:

1. _____
 2. _____
 3. Luke _____
 4. _____
 5. _____
 6. _____
 7. Saul/ became known as _____
- _____, roman emperor from 54-68 AD

We Believe in the Resurrection, not just because the Bible says so, but also because:

1. _____ of those who witnessed and saw firsthand
2. Followers of Christ, not just in and around Jerusalem, but in a few years, we have record that believers could be found 1500 miles away in _____.

We Celebrate Easter around the World:

1. Because of the _____ of the Resurrection of Jesus
2. Because of the _____ of the Resurrection

Two prominent thoughts about the Nation of Israel:

1. God would use them to _____ and bless other nations and be a _____ to the world
2. Through their lineage, God would send a _____, a deliverer

“When Jesus died, so did their Hope”

Because of the Resurrection :

1. We can know that God _____ and _____ our prayers
2. _____ and eternal life aren't a made up story
3. We can be confident that our _____ and _____ will be rewarded.
4. We can know that _____ is exactly who he claimed to be

“The grave is empty, Jesus has risen and Hope lives.”

Tombstone of “Samuel Burr”

Here rests what was mortal of Samuel Burr age 42,
in search of health far from his endeared home,
Death arrested his progress on April 2nd, 1831.
Quietly he fell asleep in the Christian hope
of immortality and glory forever.

Oh the vanity of man in this best estate.
Traveler pause and drop a tear on a grave of one so worthy
and so deeply lamented and learn wisdom for eternity.