

Easter

When Death Is Defeated | Mark 16

March 27, 2016

Questions for Study and Group Discussion

****Before you begin responding to these questions, read Mark 16:1-8 as a group.**

1. Spend a little bit of time sharing stories of Easter when you were growing up. How did you celebrate? What memories stand out to you the most?
2. Why does Easter carry such incomparable significance for followers of Jesus Christ?
3. Read the following verses and - in your own words - discuss how they reinforce the importance of Jesus' resurrection from the dead. For each passage, make sure you also highlight what this means for us, and the way we live our lives.

~ Romans 6:3-10

~ 1 Corinthians 15:14-17

~ 1 Peter 1:3-4

4. One of the points Pastor Jeff made in the sermon was this: **In Christ's resurrection, "death is defeated."** Explain what this means, and why this is such a big deal.
5. At Brookside, we believe that Christ's bodily resurrection is a real event that happened in history. We also believe Christ's sacrifice invites a response for us - it's an act of grace that must be embraced. What does it mean to "embrace grace"? (Looking for some help? Check out Romans 10:9-10 and Ephesians 2:8-10)
6. How does "Everyone win when death is defeated and grace is embraced"? When you embrace grace, how do you "win"? When you embrace grace, how should this positively influence those around you?
7. John Newton wrote a hymn many of us are familiar with, "Amazing Grace." One of the stanzas of the song says this:

*Amazing grace, How sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost, but now am found.
Was blind, but now I see.*

How is grace pictured in this stanza? What are we saved from? What are we saved to?

8. How can you keep grace "amazing" in your life - where grace is still something that takes your breath away, instead of something that becomes casually familiar?
9. **Challenge:** This week, commit to memorizing 1 Peter 1:3-4: **"3** Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, **4** and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you..."