

Northland Christian Church Group Discussion Guide - Easter 2021 For the Week of April 4, 2021

Use the questions below as a springboard for discussion. Do not feel like you have to answer every question. These are intended to help spark discussion. Refer to as needed. Ultimately we want God's answers, not man's opinions. Always land where God lands. (ex: Where do we see that in the Bible?) Give grace. Give time for growth. Don't force it.

Connect

- What view would you rather get lost in? View from: Mountains, beach, forest, hot air balloon, lakefront?
- When have you seen something inaccurately and it made things more difficult for you?
- When has improving your sight or understanding helped solve a challenge in life?
- This weekend Pastor Dave shared that: **"You see what you are looking for."** What are your thoughts on this? How has this been true for you?

Engage the Scriptures - Read <u>John 20:11-16</u> with the group.

The Context

Easter. The Resurrection of Jesus from the dead. It's been celebrated by Christians for more than 2000 years. It's a cornerstone of our faith and a bedrock of our hope. It's a confirmation that all that Jesus said was true and profitable for us. He deserves all glory, honor, trust, and praise. For thousands of years lives have been changed and empowered by the resurrection of Jesus. It has inspired songs, followers, artists, authors, ministers, and missionaries. It's brought transformation, freedom, motivation, and hope for millions. It's a stamp of approval from God that we can be saved, and a blow to the enemy's schemes and evils. It's the crux of history and faith. It should compel us onward and forward in our walk with Jesus.

See Jesus wasn't instituting a holiday, He was ushering in a rebellion. He was dying to win a war. He was dealing a death-blow to the enemy of our souls. He was destroying our sin by drowning it in His blood and perfection. He was absorbing the Holy, Powerful, wrath of God with His very flesh and righteousness! He was experiencing a gutwrenching separation from His Father when all went dark when He was dying on the cross. Then on Sunday when the stone was rolled away from the tomb and He wasn't there, He was shouting to all the universe and all the dimensions of time that hopelessness was being supplanted by victory! That salvation was here. He'd won. Hope has come!

So, let's celebrate. Let's remember. Let's be in awe of Him. The resurrection of Jesus Christ is the resurrection of real life and real sight for all who believe. We were once blind to see how life really works, and now we see clearly what life really is. This weekend Pastor Dave shared: **The Resurrection did more than raise one man from death to life, it raised all of hope back into life.**

Discuss and Apply

- 1. What is the difference between wishing and having hope? What is our hope based on?
- 2. What difference does having hope make in life? What is life without hope like?
- 3. When has hope invaded a challenging time in your life in the past? What difference did that make?
- 4. What emotions come to mind when you consider Jesus' resurrection? Does it bring any questions to mind?
- 5. What has God give us through the resurrection of Jesus?
- Dave also shared that in order to see life accurately and successfully: Open your eyes to Jesus. How does this resonate or challenge you? Is there a situation in life that you have seen this occur?
- 7. Where do you need clear vision and hope to invade your life right now?
- 8. Is there someone you know that needs hope and clear vision right now? How can you help?
- 9. How can you celebrate or remember Easter all this next week as a family?

End your group time in prayer.