

Easter Sunday

Message Based Curriculum

Opening

- Begin with a **brief welcome** and **prayer** to set the tone for the group time.
- **Introduce the theme:** Hope is found in the reality of the resurrection. The tomb is empty, and Jesus is alive. Let's stop looking for the living among the dead.

Discussion Questions

CONNECT

1. What has Easter meant to you this year?
2. How did you and/or your family celebrate?

DISCOVER

READ LUKE 24:1-12 ALOUD TOGETHER

3. The women came to the tomb with burial spices in hand, expecting to find Jesus still dead and in the grave. What are some ways that our actions show a lack of faith in Jesus and His promises?
4. What does the angels' question to the women mean? – "Why do you look for the living among the dead?" What is the insinuation about their faith?
5. What emotions do you imagine the women felt in verses 1–12? How might those emotions mirror our own experiences with grief, disappointment, or surprise?

READ EPHESIANS 2:4-5 ALOUD TOGETHER

6. What is the significance of this verse for our everyday lives?

REFLECT

7. How would you define where you are in life right now?
 - Hope-filled?
 - Suffering?
 - The one who feels too far gone?
 - Skeptical?
8. How does the resurrection speak to each of these? Use this time as a group to encourage one another with the truth of the Gospel.

APPLY

Here are some ways to help you see the Gospel come to life this week:

- Speak the resurrection over your life. Start each morning by reminding yourself:
 - *"The tomb is empty. Jesus is alive. My hope is secure."*
- Share with someone this week why the resurrection gives you hope.
- Invite someone into your home or to church who needs to hear about the life-changing power of the Resurrection.
- Reach out to someone who is suffering and remind them that they're seen and loved by Jesus.

Prayer Time + Closing

- Either break into pairs or smaller groups, or as a group, share and pray for one another.
 - **Pray for those who need the Hope of Jesus:** Ask everyone to share one name for whom you can pray together.
- Encourage everyone to continue to remember the sacrifice Jesus made for us. Just because Easter is over, the resurrection lasts forever! Let's walk in that together!