



EASTER

Life in 3-D

#npeaster

Week 1
1 of 1
April 16, 2017

Bottom Line: Because of the resurrection, there is hope for every person.

Icebreaker: Each person share your favorite kind of Easter candy, and your “must-have item” on the Easter menu.

Key Verse: *This is the kind of life you’ve been invited into, the kind of life Christ lived. He suffered everything that came his way so you would know it could be done, and also know how to do it, step-by-step.* 1 Peter 2:21 MSG

The resurrection of Jesus is recognized as so significant that every date in history is related to it, including your birthday. With that event, Jesus validated who He claimed to be and proved there is life after death. In these three days when history was forever changed, Jesus taught us we can have victory in life and over death as well.

The days that changed everything started with crisis, moved through confusion, and ended with a new beginning of confidence and celebration, as Jesus rose from the dead. He was keeping every promise He had ever made. Your journey, my journey, will have crisis and confusion as well. The only way to make it through that to the celebration is to rely on and stay faithful to God’s promises. Obedience is a magnet for blessing. When God makes a promise to us, there are conditions that make it reality. Focus on the promises of God, and on a daily basis hitch your heart to steady obedience. You will find blessing and favor coming to you as you trust and obey.

When you don’t know or trust the promises of God, you only have yourself and other fallible humans for your foundation. You will be overwhelmed with pressure, worry, and anxiety. But we have a Savior who loves to turn death into resurrection. You need to trust His promises, and they will lead you to the day of joy and celebration.

God’s Word has more than 7,000 promises, more than enough for every need you will ever have. Read His Word and claim them. Jesus relied on the promises of His Father, and He showed us that is the way from death to life.

THINK IT OVER >>>

Thinking back on the message, what impacted you most?

The next to last thing Jesus did before He went through His own personal crisis was gather with His friends. What does that say to you? Why do you think we tend to isolate and avoid our friends when we are in crisis?

The last thing Jesus did as He faced the crisis was specifically get alone to talk with His Father. What does this say to you? How can we balance time with friends and time with the Father in our suffering?

When a crisis comes, it always brings its sibling, confusion. When confused we generally do one of two things: We run TO God or away from Him. 1 Peter 5:7 is a “comprehension contract” we can have with God when we don’t understand. *“Give all your worries to him, because he cares about you.”* How can we practically do that?

LOOK IT OVER <<<

“Of one thing we can be certain—Jesus understands pain.” How is that knowledge helpful to you?

“Jesus modeled for me how to handle the worst day of my life.” What do you see that He did or didn’t do that helps you?

How did Jesus set His mind to get through the really rough crisis and confusion to the day of celebration?

Think ahead a little bit to Peter and Paul and the other early Christians. What do you recall that they learned from Jesus as they watched Him get through this time and end up in victory? What did they learn from their own failures?

What is a promise of God that has gotten you through?

NEXT STEPS

This week, consider taking some next steps together as a group:

- 1) Share where you are in the journey right now: crisis, confusion, celebration.
- 2) Share promises with each other and pray for each other.
- 3) Pray for everyone who attended on Easer to take the next step in their relationship with God.

EVALUATION/ACTION Realizing and reaching your full potential in Christ

Bottom Line: Because of the resurrection, there is hope for every person.

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| Rate yourself from 1 to 10 1 (never), 10 (always) | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| Why did you give yourself this rating? | | | | | | | | | | |
| What benefits will you obtain by raising your rating? | | | | | | | | | | |
| Do you know someone who demonstrates this bottom line well? What do you admire about that person? | | | | | | | | | | |
| What specific action can you put into practice to raise your rating? | | | | | | | | | | |
| At the end of this week, reflect - where did you see the bottom line show up in your actions throughout the week? | | | | | | | | | | |

PRAYER

List group members and their prayer requests for this week:

DAILY STUDY

Want to dig deeper? Check out **The Daily** this week at newpointe.org/daily:

- Day 1: Mark 13:35-36
- Day 2: John 16:16-20
- Day 3: Philippians 4:13
- Day 4: Isaiah 43:1-3
- Day 5: Proverbs 3:5-6

Don't let the conversation stop here. Keep talking it over with others throughout the week.
(Don't forget to bring this paper to your next small group meeting)