

COMMUNITY GROUP GUIDE

EASTER – WHY DID JESUS DIE?– 4/05/2026

COMMUNION

- Read and meditate on **1 Corinthians 15:20–22** — “Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep...”
- Spend a few quiet moments thanking Jesus that through His death and resurrection, He has opened the way for us to live through death and be restored to life with God

REVIEW

- Easter reminds us that the resurrection of Jesus changes everything, especially how we understand death.
- The Bible presents death not as natural or normal, but as an unnatural intruder, an enemy to be defeated.
- According to Scripture, humans die because we reject God’s offer of life, choosing to live by our own wisdom rather than trusting Him and His wisdom.
- Throughout the biblical story, God refuses to abandon humanity and instead works to bring His life back to us—through the tabernacle, temple, and ultimately through Jesus.
- The sacrificial system points forward to a deeper truth: a blameless representative can pass through death on behalf of others, preserving their life.
- Jesus fulfills this story—He dies for us and opens the way back to God.
- The resurrection is something entirely new: Jesus passes through death and comes out the other side alive in a renewed body, breaking the power of death itself.
- Resurrection life begins now: when we respond in faith, the life of Christ is planted within us, growing into eternal life that will one day be fully revealed.

DISCUSSION

1. What stood out to you most from this week’s teaching—an image, idea, or Scripture?
2. The sermon described death as an “enemy” rather than something natural. How does that perspective challenge or reshape how you think about death?
3. **Read 1 Corinthians 15:35–38.** How does the seed image help you understand resurrection?
4. What does it mean for you personally that Jesus didn’t just die for you, but also rose again to defeat death?
5. The sermon ended with the idea that God has come as close as possible, but still invites a response. What might it look like for you to respond in faith more fully right now?

PRAYER

Pray for one another: 1) Thank Jesus for His victory over sin and death. 2) Ask the Holy Spirit to deepen your confidence in the hope of resurrection. 3) Pray for faith to trust God not only for the future, but for the new life He is growing in you right now.