

Cultivate Reflection Guide

Easter Weekend: Believe in the Hope of Jesus
April 16/17, 2022

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Our weekly Reflection Guide equips you to start a REAL conversation in your community group, as well as cultivate God's word into your life through personal bible study. Choose the questions that challenge you to reflect and respond to what we're learning. *It's not about getting through the content, but getting the content through you!*

Read: [John 20:19-29 NLT](#)

Dig Deeper Read [John 20:1-18](#) and meditate on the beautiful early Easter morning account as Mary hears the voice of her risen master and teacher. Imagine the wonder and awe of that moment for her, and remember that Jesus knows you by name too!

Reflect: Easter reminds us that agony and glory coexist this side of heaven. But the cross proves that for every struggle we face, there is a solution. His name is Jesus! Make some time to simply be with Jesus. Sit at the foot of the cross and reflect on the journey of your faith, the growth you've found along the way and your desires for the future. Share your heart with Jesus – whether in gratitude, grief, hope or hardship.

Respond:

1. Believing in Jesus gives us:

Hope we need for the certain death we will face.

Peace of God for our anxiety and fear.

Power to face everything that the world throws at us.

- As followers of Jesus, we have the hope, peace and power of God at our disposal and yet so often, we settle for poor substitutes. Our best efforts to be hopeful, peaceful and powerful will pale in comparison to those which are found in Jesus. Where are you looking for hope, peace and power apart from Jesus?

Be REAL: Linger here and ask God to search your heart. Invite Him to show you anywhere you might be seeking fulfillment, validation, contentment, security or strength from other people, practices or pursuits.

- What would it look like for you to lay down that substitute and instead begin believing that Jesus has all the hope, peace and power you truly need?
- Read [John 20:30-31 NLT](#): What does God's word help us to do? How does that help us to live?
- Identify some practical ways that you will pursue hope, peace and power with Jesus. This could include getting baptized, joining a community group, serving on a team, giving to support the church OR pursuing spiritual growth by reading your bible, attending church consistently and sharing your faith.
- Make a commitment to yourself and God to live out that better pursuit. Tell others and invite them to hold you accountable to cultivating REAL hope, peace and power in Jesus!
- We're here to help. If you're ready to grow deeper in your faith and connect with others in real relationships and real opportunities to serve, check out the [Growth Path](#).

Prayer: "Jesus, I believe in you and because I do, I want to live what I believe every single day. Help me to look to you for hope, peace and power. Make me aware of your presence through your Holy Spirit in my life and fill me with the courage and strength to listen, follow and obey. Bring people into my life who know you and love you, people who will challenge and encourage me to pursue you. When I'm weary, remind me that I'm not alone. Thank you, Jesus, for loving me and for dying to save me from a life apart from you. Amen."