



Easter Sunday // Jeff Brodie// April 17, 2022

It can be tempting to believe that your failures, struggles, and disappointments will forever determine the outcomes of your life. But there is good news! God isn't finished with you yet, just like he wasn't finished with Jesus after the tomb. Instead, he wants to bring new hope and resurrection to your life's dark and dead places. He wants to restore hope in you through Jesus.

Scripture: [Matthew 28:1-10](#), [Galatians 2:19-20](#), [2 Corinthians 5:17-18](#)

Bottom Line: Jesus takes what's dead or broken and brings new life.

Getting Started:

1. What is your favorite Easter memory?
2. Have you ever gardened flowers or vegetables before? If so, what are the highlights or low moments that stand out to you about gardening?

Discuss:

3. Read Matthew 28:1-10.
 - a. What surprises you or stands out to you about this passage?
 - b. If you were one of the first witnesses to Jesus after his resurrection, what do you think your response would have been?
 - c. Jeff shared that this moment was the beginning of eternity forever changed. How does this impact your response to this passage?
4. Jeff shared that we don't know how to deal with pain and suffering in a healthy way in our current culture.
 - a. Have you seen this to be true in your own life or the life of those around you? Explain.
 - b. How does your relationship with Jesus help you to walk through the seasons of pain and suffering you experience in your life? Why?
5. Read Galatians 2:19-20.
 - a. Can you relate to what the apostle Paul is saying in this passage?
 - b. What does Paul mean to be crucified with Christ and live trusting in him?

- c. Have you been baptized? If so, consider sharing some of your story with the group. If not, perhaps this is a next step in your faith journey with Jesus. Check out ConnexusChurch.com/Baptism for more information.
- 6. Read 2 Corinthians 5:17-18. How does this passage change the way you might look at the moments of pain or suffering you have experienced in your life?
- 7. Jeff shared that, like a seed buried in the dark soil, Jesus wants to bring new life and take what is broken in you and make it beautiful. What's broken in your life that you would love for Jesus to make beautiful?
- 8. If you're not yet sure what you believe about the resurrection of Jesus and the promises he fulfilled in his life on earth and after, take time to think about the difference this faith could make for you and your life. Better yet, take a bold step and invite someone you trust, like your small group leader, to journey with you as you process your questions and your doubts.
- 9. Consider sharing what you wrote on your piece of seed paper with your group so you can be praying for each other as you look for God to bring new life to that area of your life.

Moving Forward:

"The resurrection declared that Jesus was not the ordinary sort of political king, a rebel leader, that some had supposed. He was the leader of a far larger, more radical revolution than anyone had ever supposed. He was inaugurating a whole new world, a new creation, a new way of being human. He was forging a way into a new cosmos, a new era, a form of existence hinted at all along but never before unveiled. Here it is, he was saying. This is the new creation you've been waiting for. It is open for business. Come and join in." - N.T. Wright