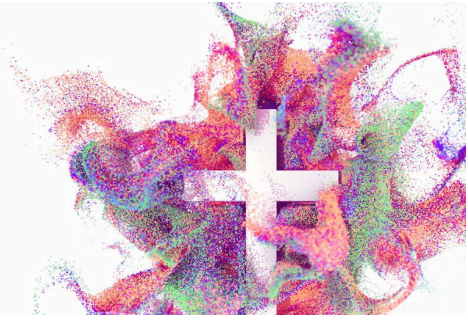


# EASTER SUNDAY



## Jesus Holds the Keys // Jeff Brodie // April 5, 2026

What if the most important door in your life isn't locked after all? We all know what it's like to feel stuck—trapped in disappointment, fear, or doubt. But what if the resurrection of Jesus isn't just a story to believe, but a reality that unlocks something meaningful in you?

**Scripture:** [John 20:1-29 NLT](#) // [Revelation 1:18 NLT](#)

**Bottom Line:** Jesus holds the keys to sin and death—and this compels us to respond.

### Digging In:

*Reminder: The goal is a good discussion, not completing every question. Use these as a tool to help.*

1. What is your favourite Easter memory or tradition, and why?
2. Can you recall a time when someone opened a door or opportunity for you? What happened? How did you respond?
3. When you hear the word “resurrection,” what comes to mind—belief, skepticism, curiosity, doubt, joy, gratitude, some other thought/emotion?
4. Read John 20 together and discuss the following questions:
  - a. Mary initially assumes Jesus' body was relocated, not resurrected. How is this a reasonable expectation? What makes the idea of someone rising from the dead hard for people to accept?
  - b. What does Mary's reaction teach us about how people tend to experience grief and brokenness?
  - c. The disciples lock themselves behind doors out of fear. What are they afraid of? What does this reveal about their mindset at that moment?
  - d. Thomas refuses to believe without tangible proof. Can you identify with him in needing evidence? What does Thomas' response teach us about doubt and faith?
5. Across these accounts, what changes in the people after they encounter the risen Jesus? What surprises or encourages you about this transformation?
6. Where do you find yourself “closing the door” in your life instead of letting Jesus in? Can you identify with one of the three “locked doors” Jeff highlighted from John 20—brokenness, fear, or doubt? How is that reality impacting your life currently?
7. How might the truth of Jesus' resurrection bring transformation to your situation? What would it look like for hope, joy, or belief to become more real—not just ideas—in your everyday life?

8. When you imagine fully responding to Jesus, what excites you most—and what makes you hesitate a bit?
9. If Jesus truly holds the keys to sin and death (see Revelation 1:18), what kind of response would that call for in your life? What is one practical way you can live differently this week because of the resurrection?

**Looking Forward:**

This week, carry this question with you: *How am I responding to the resurrection?* When you feel fear, doubt, or discouragement, remember that Jesus holds the keys—and no door is truly closed to him. Take one step toward him—whether that's praying honestly, asking deeper questions, or choosing to trust him in a specific area of your life. Don't let Easter be something you just celebrate—let it be something that changes you from the inside out.