



small groups

Discussion Guide



John 20:1-20

Ice Breaker

(10 minutes)

Discuss

- Which Holy Week activities did you attend? What was your favorite?
 - Did you give up or take on anything for Lent? How did it go?
 - How are you readjusting now that Lent is over?
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Lesson Review

(20 minutes)

A big portion of the service this week was directed at guests and unbelievers. Andy announced the Big Questions Conference in May. He listed four big questions that will be addressed at that conference.

- Is there a God?
- Why does God allow evil and suffering?
- Is the Bible reliable?
- Do science and faith contradict one another?

Discuss

- Which of these big questions troubles you most?
- Do you know anyone who is struggling with these questions? How would you like your group to pray for them?

Read John 20:1-10

Andy summarized Easter belief with this statement: "Jesus Christ's bodily resurrection from the dead three days after being killed on a cross proves that he was and is the true Son of God and Savior of the world."

Andy said there are three broad phases of everyone's spiritual journey related to that statement:

- **Phase 1:** It could be true, but I doubt it
- **Phase 2:** I hope it's true, and I trust it
- **Phase 3:** I believe it's true, and I live it

And Andy gave some simple next steps between the phases. For those in Phase 1, the next step is to investigate. To dig into the historical record and scriptural texts and decide whether the miracle of Jesus' resurrection is supported by valid evidence. For those in Phase 2, the next step is to get involved with a local group of believers following Jesus.

Application

(30 minutes)

Discuss

- Which phase are you in?
- What's your next step?
- If you're in Phase 3, who do you know that is one or two phases behind you?
- How can you help them take their next step?

The people who shared their stories in the service were Michelle Robinson, Jeff and Kelly Jarrell, and Avery Rosenquist. Take a few minutes to pray for them. Ask God to bless them for their courage and faithfulness to him.

