

LIFEGROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

GLOW WEEK 1



Easter Sunday is supposed to be a time of joy and celebration (cue the candy, pastel eggs, and sunshine). But before Easter Sunday could happen, Good Friday had to happen first. Before the joy, hope, and light of Jesus' resurrection could be experienced, Jesus and his followers first had to experience some deeply frightening, painful, hopeless, and dark moments. Maybe you've had moments like that before too. This Easter, whether you feel like you're living in the darkness of Good Friday or the light of Easter Sunday, there's something new Jesus wants to help you discover about his death and resurrection. In this one-off series from the Gospels, we'll discover Easter isn't just something that happened 2,000 years ago — it's something that's still happening today. We'll discover **Jesus is with us in the darkness, and Jesus is the light in the darkness.**

THIS WEEK

BIG IDEA

We were raised from death to life with Jesus.

BIBLE

JOHN 20:1-18

PREDISCUSSION

- What are some of your favorite Easter traditions that you and your family do each year?
- What is your earliest memory of hearing about the death and resurrection of Jesus? What was your initial feeling and reaction towards this message?

DISCUSSION

- **Ask one of your students to read John 20:1-10 (pg.1077).**
- Why do you think that Mary Magdalene went to the tomb while it was still dark?
- Could you speculate and describe what you think Peter and John were feeling while they were running?
- Honestly, before Jesus rose from the dead, the disciples went into hiding and lost all hope. When was a time that you had lost all hope? When was a time that you had lost hope in Jesus? *The LifeGroup Leader guiding the discussion is encouraged to share a vulnerable story to promote vulnerability in the group.*
- It seems that the beloved disciple believed while Peter did not. How can this scenario impact the way we discuss things in LifeGroup?
- **Ask one of your students to read John 20:11-18(pg.1077).**
- Mary did not recognize that Jesus was speaking to her. How often do you think Jesus is speaking to us and we do not recognize it is him? How can we better recognize God's voice in our lives?
- It seems that our relationship with God shifted and changed when Jesus rose from the dead (vs. 17). What happened?
- **Ask for prayer requests.** Take some time to pray over your group as leaders and pray for students to prioritize LifeGroup as a central part of their spiritual growth journey and to encourage friendships to develop and grow in this community.

APRIL GOAL

THIS Week- FELLOWSHIP: Coordinate something easy for your group to do NEXT month. For example, plan a Sunday afternoon where you and your family go to the movies. Invite your groups parents and students telling them a movie and a time. Plan something fun!

LIFEGROUP TIPS AND REMINDERS

- Create meaningful conversation in your group time. Adjust the questions as needed for your context. Feel free to add more. Don't just ask a question and move on to the next in a few seconds. LifeGroup time is designed to allow for more conversations about the subject matter and allow you to help students come up with their own answers.
- Dive into the discussion guide as soon as possible while the message from student worship is fresh on the student's minds. Save prayer requests, highs/lows, and weekend stories for the end of group time.
- Re-read the Scripture or even add supportive verses to help with discussion. Read the message outline to give more context to your discussion guide questions.
- Mine for answers. Don't be satisfied with just one student answering or their "typical churchy response." Be comfortable asking why or having a student explain their answer for more clarity.
- Be comfortable with silence after asking a question. **PLEASE DON'T ANSWER THE QUESTIONS FOR THEM.** Allow time for students to give their answers, as this usually opens the door for others to participate.
- Don't dismiss students into the atrium! Dismiss them to the student commons and hang out with them there. Remember the 15-minute rule – 15 minutes before and after group time are some of the best times to have meaningful conversations with your students.
- Try to keep your students in LG the whole time. They will have plenty of time to go to the bathroom before LGs. If a bathroom break is necessary, dismiss them to the bathrooms in the downstairs student commons – **NOT THE ADULT LIFEGROUP BATHROOMS ON THE 2ND FLOOR.**
- **Don't forget the Four Fs of Leadership!** FOLLOW UP, FAMILY CONNECTION, FELLOWSHIP+, & FAITH CONVERSATIONS

DISMISS TO STUDENT COMMONS **(DO NOT LET STUDENTS GO TO THE SECOND FLOOR LANDING BEHIND THE MAIN WORSHIP CENTER BALCONY).**