

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 20, 2014

NOTES:

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF EASTER?

Like most people in our world, growing up I believed that as long as I was a good person, I would make it into heaven, that God would let me in as long as I made the cut. The truth is, that's actually right, but I didn't realize that the bar was set not to me or what I deemed as being acceptable living, but what *God* made acceptable. The first time I realized this, I realized it was bad news.

Isaiah 53.6 // Romans 3.23, 6.23 // 1 John 1.8

**It was mankind who broke God's law,
so it must be a man who could pay the price to restore mankind.**

But there is Good News for you and for me! There was a Man who came and actually lived the life that God had desired, and He represented us before God, and He paid our debt. This Man, Jesus, is the Son of God, sent to the earth to do what we couldn't do: live a perfect and sinless life, pleasing to God. And through His life and death, our sin is paid for; through His resurrection He proved that He has the power of death itself, and when we put our trust in Him, we, too, can be saved from the power of sin and death. So, though we can't get to heaven by our good works (because we simply won't be good enough), we *can* enter into heaven because of *Jesus'* good works, including His death, that He did for us.

John 3.3-8, 16-18 // Ephesians 2.1-9

HOPE FOR YOU

You may not believe that God sent His Son to die in the place of sinful people; or perhaps you are "on the fence" on what you believe or are wrestling with the idea that there is a God. Or maybe you call yourself a Christian, but it's not a very important aspect of your life. Don't hold on to a false hope. Every single one of us has sin that has to be dealt with somehow, and either it will be our own selves paying the penalty of our sin, or it will be Christ.

But there is a great hope! No matter what you have done or where you have been, Jesus speaks these words:

**"I am the resurrection and the life.
Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and
everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die.**

Do you believe this?"

-Jesus, from John 11.25, 26



Recommended Resources

The Gospel Transformation Bible

Published by Crossway, this bible is not *so much* a study bible, but a bible with commentary to help you see the bigger picture of Christ and His Gospel in and through all the Scriptures.

ARE YOU NEW HERE?

WELCOME TO LIFE MISSION CHURCH!

We're so glad you joined us today! We'd LOVE for you to **fill out the green Connection Card** on your seat to let us know you were here today. You can drop it in the offering at the end of service or take it to one of our **teammates in a Green Shirt** at the **Connection Booth** outside - we'd love to give you some welcome information.

Feel free to **grab some food or coffee** out in the courtyard and hang out. We hope you'll **join us next Sunday** and consider making us your church family.

SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

If you've ever taken your child to one of our Kids on Mission classes, or enjoyed a cup of coffee after service, chances are there was a **faithful servant** behind each of those examples. By giving your time and talent on Sundays, you're **an essential part** of helping others meet Jesus, and serving is one of the **most fun & rewarding ways we experience community** with our church family! Fill out a connection card or visit the **Connection Booth** to learn about the serving opportunities available today.

COMMUNITY GROUPS

The best way to **get connected** in the church is by joining one of our **Community Groups!** You'll **forge friendships**, be encouraged, and take the sermon deeper into your heart every week. **Sign up for a Group** on a **Connection Card** or visit the **Connection Booth**. You won't regret it!

GIVING

Gospel-centered generosity should never be fueled by obligation or guilt; it should be motivated by a heart of thankfulness because of the sacrificial love God has already shown us. If you call Life Mission your Home, you can place your gift in the offering baskets at the end of service, give online at lifemissionchurch.com/blog/give or mail a check to our PO Box. **Thank you so much for your love & support!**

KIDS ON MISSION

Our Kids are incredibly important to us! The Kids on Mission ministry has classrooms for **newborns - 6th grade** & is passionately overseen by **Audra Napolitano**. Please Visit lifemissionchurch.com/blog/kids to read more about the vision and plan we have for our kids, including Pastor Jobey's heart and his walkthrough of our curriculum.

JUNIOR HIGH & HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Our Junior High students (**7th & 8th graders**) worship with the adults, and then head to their class for the rest of service. We challenge them to **dig deeper into what they learned on Sunday** throughout the week.

Our **High School students** stay in the adult service because we believe that it is critical for them to not "graduate the faith" when they graduate school. For questions on our student ministries, contact **Casey Barnes** at hbarnes5@yahoo.com or **John Hawthorne** at hawthorne-john@hotmail.com

SAVE.

Jesus was sent to save. We have been saved to be sent. We are sent into our community to share the Good News that Christ came to save us, and we hope to see many who find new life.

EQUIP.

We want to equip those very people in the Word so that they can continue to grow as disciples of Christ. From our preschool to our adults, our passion is to see everyone equipped in the Gospel to live a life of freedom and joy.

SEND.

Lastly, we then want to see those equipped people sent into their community and world. From schools and playgrounds, to families and work places, we want to see people who are spiritual leaders in their life, showing people the truth of Christ's Good News.

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COMMUNITY GROUP HOMEWORK

What stuck out to you the most from the sermon on Sunday? _____

Read through **Isaiah 53.1-12**. What portions of this text, written by Isaiah around 680 years before Jesus was born, bring to mind specific instances that Jesus fulfilled in His life? _____

Now read **Romans 3.23, 6.23**, followed by **John 3.3-8, 16-18**, followed by **Ephesians 2.1-9**. How do these verses show us the "problem" (Bad News) of why Jesus had to suffer the way He did, as well as the Good News of what His suffering and death accomplished? _____

This week, to celebrate and do something a little different in your **Community Group**, take some time to either write down in the space provided, or think through on your own how you would describe your life in Bad News and Good News terms. In other words, share with your group a 5 minute mini-"testimony" of what God has saved you from, and how your life has changed since becoming born again and saved by the work of Christ.

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**The Son of God became a sinless man,
So that sinful men could become sons of God.**