

EASTER

Matthew 27:27-28:15

Scripture Memory of the Month

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus sin.
Romans 8:1

1) CATCH UP ON LIFE

This is when we update each other on the day in and day out happenings of our lives. Because God is our Father we are family. As church family, we care about each other's lives: what we're celebrating, what we're mourning, what decisions we are praying through, and everything in between. (1 Thessalonians 2:8, Romans 12:10 and 15)

Celebrate the wins - where have you seen Jesus working in the last week (shaping you to be more like Himself or working in the lives of those that He's put around you)?

What (if any) big life updates do you need to catch us up on (positive or negative)? Are there any practical needs you have right now?

Pray: Take every opportunity to pray and thank God for the good He's doing in our lives, and ask for help and healing anywhere there is pain.

2) DISCUSS THE TEXT - ENGAGE THE HEART

These questions are designed to help us study the word together, apply it to our lives, and then see the gospel in this passage. Take some time in each section together, engaging with one another's insights as we study the Bible together.

Read Matthew 27:11-28:15

What sticks out to you from this passage?

What encouragement or correction do you find here?

The following is pulled from an article by Desiring God.¹ As you read through this list stop on each one and answer the following questions: Who here is struggling to believe this truth right now? How is this aspect of the gospel good news to you right now?

¹ <https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/10-results-of-the-resurrection>

“Here are ten amazing things we owe to the resurrection of Jesus:

1) A Savior who can never die again. “We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, *will never die again*” (Romans 6:9).

2) Repentance. “The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, *to give repentance to Israel*” (Acts 5:30–31).

3) New birth. “According to his great mercy, *he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ* from the dead” (1 Peter 1:3).

4) Forgiveness of sin. “*If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins*” (1 Corinthians 15:17).

5) The Holy Spirit. “This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and *having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing*” (Acts 2:32–33).

6) No condemnation for the elect. “*Who is to condemn?* Christ Jesus is the one who died — more than that, who was raised — who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us” (Romans 8:34).

7) Jesus’s personal fellowship and protection. “*I am with you always, to the end of the age*” (Matthew 28:20).

8) Proof of coming judgment. “[God] has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this *he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead*” (Acts 17:31).

9) Salvation from the future wrath of God. “[We] wait for his Son from heaven, *whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come*” (1 Thessalonians 1:10; Romans 5:9).

10) Our own resurrection from the dead. “[We know] that he who raised the Lord Jesus *will raise us also with Jesus* and bring us with you into his presence” (2 Corinthians 4:14; Romans 6:4; 8:11; 1 Corinthians 6:14; 15:20).”

Spend some time praying in thanksgiving together.

3) REVIEW THE MISSION

Through the empowerment of the Holy Spirit we have been sent as missionaries in everyday life to display God's glory and lead others to repentance and faith through belief in the gospel. (John 20:21 and 2 Corinthians 5:18-20)

People:

Who can be intentionally living on mission amidst our current situation? (neighbors, coworkers, or a specific demographic in Columbia)

Plan:

Who is one person you can share the gospel with this week? How can that be done under the current constraints? Spend some time praying for these opportunities.

How can we be intentional in times like this about sharing the gospel?

Pray:

Pray for God to help us love him above all else that we may join him boldly in his mission to redeem the world. Pray for those around us that we need to share this with or invite in.