

Easter Sunday

Matthew 28:1-10, 19-20

Icebreaker: How did you practice BLESS this week?

Discussion: For group discussion to be fruitful and engaging for everyone in your group, make sure that your discussion groups are not larger than 4 people. If possible, break up into groups of 2 or 3.

Larger Group: (5 minutes)

- Welcome everyone
- Introduce the direction for the evening.
 - Read Matthew 28:18-20 highlight the following
 - The starting place of this conversation is that the risen Lord Jesus has all authority in heaven and earth.
 - Our goal is to celebrate and live in the light of His resurrection
 - “Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen.”--Luke 24:5
- Prepare to break into smaller groups

Smaller Groups (20-25 minutes) Give the following instructions and break into small groups (2-3 people).

Have someone read Matthew 28:36, 1-10. Two women named Mary are the first to get the news that Jesus is risen from the dead! What they saw and experienced they shared with others!

- What are some ways that the news of the resurrection has changed your life?
- Though the women were fearful and confused, they seemed to gain joy and clarity as they obeyed what they were told. What are some ways that your obedience to the commands of Jesus have helped you move from fear to joy?
- The women experienced Jesus and told others about their experiences.
 - How are you currently experiencing Jesus?
 - Who have you told about Jesus?
 - Who are you planning to tell about Jesus?

Larger Group:

Return to larger group to give summary of your discussion in smaller groups (5-10 minutes)

How does acknowledging your limitations, vulnerabilities and weaknesses help you communicate the gospel to your friends and family?

Allow time to pray for the lost, end with B.L.E.S.S. (10-15 minutes)

Where are group members in the B.L.E.S.S. process? Model for them how to answer briefly, for example:

“I’m praying for _____”.

“I have been having good conversations with _____”. “I’m having lunch with _____
_____ on
_____ (day of the week).”

Closing prayer - (2-5-minutes)