

THE FOUR CROWDS AT EASTER

THERE IS A CROWD THAT SAYS:

❶ What's in it **for me?**

Mark 11:1-11, 15:6-15

“I know enough about Jesus to **want Him on my side.**”

RESULT:

❷ I'm **smarter** than God.

Mark 11:31-32, 12:12, 14:1-2, 61-65

“I know enough about God to **make my own Jesus.**”

RESULT:

❸ Great story... **see you next year.**

“I know enough about Jesus to **celebrate the holiday.**”

RESULT:

❹ I'll follow and do **whatever God wants.**

Mark 15:40-41, 16:9-16

“I know enough about Jesus to **give Him my life.**”

RESULT:

TAKING IT HOME:

THE FOUR CROWDS AT EASTER

THERE IS A CROWD THAT SAYS:

❶ **What's in it _____?**

Mark 11:1-11, 15:6-15

"I know enough about Jesus to _____."

RESULT:

❷ **I'm _____ than God.**

Mark 11:31-32, 12:12, 14:1-2, 61-65

"I know enough about God to _____."

RESULT:

❸ **Great story... _____.**

"I know enough about Jesus to _____."

RESULT:

❹ **I'll follow and do _____.**

Mark 15:40-41, 16:9-16

"I know enough about Jesus to _____."

RESULT:

TAKING IT HOME:

Food for Thought

For the week of March 23, 2008
(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

1. Pastor Chris explained that God will let you be a part of any "crowd" you want. Which of the crowds that we looked at do you tend to find yourself in today? What have been some of the rewards and/or consequences of your choices?

2. When someone decides to walk with the "do whatever God wants" crowd and follow Jesus, it will cost them something. In fact, anything worth much usually costs much. How do Jesus' words about the cost of following Him in Luke 14:25-35 fit with your spiritual journey and/or experience in following Him?

3. It's amazing how God's Spirit can bring a fresh perspective or reminder to a text or Scripture we've heard before. Take a moment and read again the story of the resurrection in Matthew 28:1-10. What thoughts or observations come to mind as you read the text?

4. The Apostle Paul emphasized the importance of the resurrection to Christians when he wrote: "if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins" (1 Corinthians 15:17). Suppose a friend or co-worker informed you that they attended church this Easter for the first time in quite a while. They enjoyed the experience and their curiosity was sparked. But "Come on," they say, "how do you know Jesus is alive?" How could the following verses help you respond to them?

Matthew 27:62-65

1 Corinthians 15:2-8

Matthew 28:11-15