

The Lost Stories Of Easter

SETTING THE SCENE:

STORY #1:

You Don't Know Who You Are Dealing With

Jesus Claimed To:

- ☞ Be **equal** with God.
John 5:18, 8:58-59, 10:30-38, 12:45, 14:7-10, 16:15, 17:11-22
- ☞ Be the **voice** of God.
Matthew 5:17-44, Mark 13:31, John 6:63, 8:51-52, 14:23-24
- ☞ Have authority over **all things**.
Matthew 8:27, 28:18, Mark 1:27, John 5:27
- ☞ Determine people's **destiny**.
Matthew 7:21-23, Luke 12:8-9, John 3:14-19, 5:22-27, 6:40, 6:51, 8:12, 10:7-21, 14:6
- ☞ Forgive **sins**.
Mark 2:5-12, Luke 5:20-24

STORY #2:

You Don't Know What You Are Invited To

3 THINGS TO REMEMBER:

- ❶ Sunday is just a **small part** of Easter.
- ❷ No one can **earn** their way into the **party**.
- ❸ There is no **middle ground**...
We can only **accept** or **reject** the invitation.

THE PURPOSE OF GROWTH GROUPS

Growth Groups exist to promote spiritual maturity and personal growth through meaningful Christian relationships and the study of God's Word (Romans 8:29 & Hebrews 10:24-25). Here's how it will happen:

SHARE

Each week we'll take time to share what is happening in our lives. At first this sharing will include planned "sharing questions." But after the first few weeks, it will become more informal and personal as we feel more comfortable.

STUDY

Each week we'll study a section from God's Word that relates to the previous weekend's sermon or an appropriate personal growth topic. Our goal is to learn how to live out our Christianity in everyday life.

SUPPORT

Each week we'll learn how to take care of one another as Christ commanded (John 15:9-13). This care can take many forms, such as prayer, encouragement, listening, challenging one another and meeting real needs.

SERVE

Spiritual growth is fostered not only by what we gain through the support and input of others, but also through service to others. The role each of us fills is important to the health of the church and for us to be the hands and feet of Jesus to the community in which we live (Ephesians 4:11-16). Throughout the quarter it is our hope that you can find and/or be affirmed in the ways God has designed you to serve and make a difference in God's Kingdom.

The Lost Stories Of Easter

SETTING THE SCENE:

STORY #1:

You Don't Know Who You Are Dealing With

Jesus Claimed To:

☞ Be _____ with God.
John 5:18, 8:58-59, 10:30-38, 12:45, 14:7-10, 16:15, 17:11-22

☞ Be the _____ of God.
Matthew 5:17-44, Mark 13:31, John 6:63, 8:51-52, 14:23-24

☞ Have authority over _____.
Matthew 8:27, 28:18, Mark 1:27, John 5:27

☞ Determine people's _____.
Matthew 7:21-23, Luke 12:8-9, John 3:14-19, 5:22-27, 6:40, 6:51, 8:12, 10:7-21, 14:6

☞ Forgive _____.
Mark 2:5-12, Luke 5:20-24

STORY #2:

You Don't Know What You Are Invited To

3 THINGS TO REMEMBER:

- ❶ Sunday is just a _____ of Easter.
- ❷ No one can _____ their way into the _____.
- ❸ There is no _____...
We can only _____ or _____ the invitation.

Growth Group Homework

For the week of April 4, 2010

Welcome to the Spring Quarter of Growth Groups. The homework has been shortened a little to allow ample time to reconnect with your group, kick off your first meeting with a potluck dinner, and go over the covenant. Have a great quarter!

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

1. There are a variety of ways people celebrate Easter. What was it like in your household growing up? Has it changed over the years?

2. Chris talked about who Jesus claimed to be in this week's teaching. How do you think the average person on the street would describe Jesus?

What would be your one-sentence description of Jesus?

3. Looking back over your notes from this week's sermon, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, confused you or challenged you?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. This week we heard how God has given us all we need to produce "fruit" in the vineyard. Ephesians 4:1-3 gives us a window into what this fruit could look like in our lives day to day. As you read Ephesians 4:1-3, write down how it would look in a specific situation for you to put each of the "fruits" or "actions" listed into practice.

2. Understanding who Jesus is and what He has done is the essential message of Easter. How do the following verses further

describe Jesus beyond what we've already heard from this weekend's teaching?

John 6:35

John 8:12

John 10:11

1 Timothy 2:5-6

Revelation 1:8, 22:13

Is there one description you relate to more than the others?

TAKING IT HOME

Looking back at your responses on Digging Deeper #1, which actions or fruit would you like your Growth Group to pray for you about during the Spring Quarter?