

Discussion Questions

Preparation:

What did you do to observe Holy Week, Palm Sunday – Easter?

Did you try any of the suggestions the Pastor made like: 1) Following Jesus through the last week of his life using the Bible reading plan? 2) Inviting people over for a meal and celebrating communion together? 3) Seeing a movie on the life of Jesus or seeing one of the recommended films?

What were your experience(s) like?

Passages:

²⁷ "You will all fall away," Jesus told them, "for it is written:

*"I will strike the shepherd,
and the sheep will be scattered."^[a]*

²⁸ But after I have risen, I will go ahead of you into Galilee."

²⁹ Peter declared, "Even if all fall away, I will not."

³⁰ "Truly I tell you," Jesus answered, "today—yes, tonight—before the rooster crows twice^[b] you yourself will disown me three times."

³¹ But Peter insisted emphatically, "Even if I have to die with you, I will never disown you." And all the others said the same. Mark 14:27-31

¹⁵ When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?"

"Yes, Lord," he said, "you know that I love you."

Jesus said, "Feed my lambs."

¹⁶ Again Jesus said, "Simon son of John, do you love me?"

He answered, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you."

Jesus said, "Take care of my sheep."

¹⁷ The third time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?"

Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, "Do you love me?" He said, "Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you."

Jesus said, "Feed my sheep." John 21:15-17

Encountering the Risen Lord

Mark 14:27-31; John 21:15-19

3/9/23

1. What's the connection between the cross and resurrection of Jesus?
2. What was Jesus' mission? Did he come to be merely an example for us to follow?
3. Put yourself in Peter's shoes. How would you have felt following your denial of Jesus?
4. Have you ever experienced a personal moral failure that embarrassed or demoralized you? How did you get over it so you were able to move on and experience restoration?
5. How are churches at restoring confessing Christians who have experienced a significant moral failure?
6. How does Jesus restore Peter? From Jesus' example, what can we do to help people recover from falling to a particular sin? Are there some sins that are harder to recover from than others?
7. Share a death and resurrection experience you have had, large or small.
8. What are disordered loves and what problems do they create in our lives? Give an example.
9. Is there a love that you have a hard time keeping it in its proper place?
10. How does a death-resurrection experience produce both courage and tenderness in a person? Of the two, which one are you is a strength and which one is a weakness?
11. Have you ever been called to do something that made you shudder because you knew you were ill-equipped or had the wrong temperament for it? How did God use you in spite of your weaknesses?
12. What fire(s) have you invited Jesus to, to have a frank and honest conversation about? What happened as a result of being open and honest about your fire(s)?
13. Have you ever been transparent with others about sins you struggle with? Did it help? Does having a person hold you accountable for your spiritual health help?
14. What was your favorite Encounter story during this Lenten series and why was it your favorite? If you did not have a favorite, share a highlight from your Lenten season.

If this is your final small group meeting, talk about the future. Do you want to continue as a group or do you want to disband and join the next All-Church small group opportunity?