

He Has Overcome the World

April 12, 2020



Reading/Group Discussion

Break the virtual ice (5 minutes)

This week, begin by having everyone share their highs and lows of the week.

Begin with prayer (5 minutes)

As you begin your virtual gathering, have someone open your time together by praying that the Holy Spirit would lead and guide your time together.

Checking the pulse (10 minutes)

Use a few minutes catching up on how everyone has been. Make sure that everyone has time and space to share what is happening in their lives.

Then, each person can spend a few moments sharing their experiences of Good Friday and Easter Sunday.

Read this overview

This past weekend, Dan talked about the hope that we have as Christians – Jesus is alive! Jesus' death and resurrection is the focal point of all history. And that reality shapes everything we do.

In some ways, our situation today is similar to that of the disciples before they realized that Jesus was alive. They huddled in homes scared, anxious, and afraid of an outside threat. Little did they know, however, that Jesus would show himself to them. This was no hallucination. The disciples were able to eat with Jesus, talk with Jesus, cling to Jesus, and touch Jesus. Their experience with the Resurrected One changed everything for them.

Words that Jesus had previously spoken became their mantra: "In this world, you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

Talk through this past weekend's sermon & encourage one another (20-30 minutes)

Here are a few questions to guide this time:

- How did this weekend's sermon deepen your faith? How did it challenge you? Explain.

- In what ways do you feel like the situation for the disciples is similar or dissimilar to how you experienced Resurrection Sunday?
- Where in your past have you experienced God's victory? What in your past do you have a hard time feeling like Jesus claimed victory?
- In what ways might life have you feeling insecure right now? How does Jesus' resurrection speak into that?
- Describe where in your life you are experiencing hopelessness right now. In what ways does Jesus' resurrection bring those areas some hope?
- What questions do you have about Jesus' resurrection?
- If Jesus is raised from the dead, what implications might that have for your life right now?
- How does this sermon or the daily work challenge you to live differently?

As a church, we affirm that God is always working. He is always directing, leading, and guiding us. Spend some time discussing what God is inviting you into right now.

- What do you sense God doing **in** you that you need to respond to?
- What do you sense God doing **around** you that you think he is inviting you into?
- What do you sense God doing **through** you that you need courage for?

Spend time thinking through how your group can be #FORTHE317 (5 minutes)

Try asking the following:

- How can we serve one another?
- How can you best serve your family in this time?
- What is a way that we can best serve our neighbors in this time?

Finish with prayer (5-10 minutes)

You might designate someone in your group to write down everyone's prayer requests and then send them to the whole group for everyone to be praying about through the week.

- What is on your heart that you need prayer for?
- Who in your life needs prayer?

Have someone close your time together by interceding for the requests that were shared.