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## GROUP DISCUSSION

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Prayer Requests:

**Group Discussion:** At Christmas we give gifts to one another to celebrate God's gift to us in the birth of Jesus. What does your family do to personally celebrate Jesus resurrection and Easter?

Read out loud: John 20:19-29

3 Resurrection truths from Jesus to us:

#1. Faith is the key to confidence. "Peace *be* with you." And when He had said this, He showed them both His hands and His side. The disciples then rejoiced when they saw the Lord. So Jesus said to them again, "Peace *be* with you;" Notice Jesus reinforces His disciples faith by showing them the scars of death and yet He's standing there in front of them totally alive!!! Our faith is reinforced by the disciples testimony that they saw Jesus alive. What one person in your life would you have the greatest faith in if they were to go back in time and see Jesus on this day?

#2. Purpose is the definition of success.

"...as the Father has sent Me, I also send you." And when He had said this, He breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit." The Holy Spirit lives within each Christian, what the most significant work He does in your life: give you joy, convict you of sin, help you forgive or motivate you to love? As the Pastor of GateWay my greatest purpose is to teach the best Bible lessons I can, that's my definition of Christian success. What's your personal definition of Christian success?

#3. Hope is the foundation of the future. "Unless I see in His hands the imprint of the nails, and put my finger into the place of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe." After eight days...Jesus came, the doors having been shut, and stood in their midst and said, "Peace *be* with you." Then He said to Thomas, "Reach here with your finger, and see My hands; and reach here your hand and put it into My side; and do not be unbelieving, but believing." Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!" "...He was raised on the third day...He appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. After that He appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time, most of whom remain until now..." I Corinthians 15:4-6

What did you think of the story of Rene lying in the tomb yelling, "He is Risen!?" What's the greatest surprise that's really startled you?

**Family Time:** If you have an Easter egg hunt at your house make sure you hide 1 empty egg and use it to teach your kids the tomb was empty.