



Weekend Resources

April 5, 2026

"History's Greatest Mystery"

RECAP: We're not starting with religion—we're starting with a question. How did a small group of terrified followers turn the world upside down after their leader was crucified? What actually happened after the cross? And why—after 2,000 years—is the story of Jesus still shaping history? Easter is a true story worth investigating—because if Jesus really rose, it changes what you can hand over and what can be made new.

MAIN POINTS

- Easter solves history's greatest mystery. When Jesus died, the movement should have died with Him because He was the movement and the message. The only logical explanation for cowards becoming martyrs and skeptics becoming preachers is that they were convinced they saw Him alive.
- Jesus built His message around Himself. Unlike other religious teachers who point away from themselves, Jesus made audacious claims that He and the Father were one. He didn't just give good advice; He backed up His claims with miracles and by predicting His own death and resurrection.
- In John 19:30, the Greek word *paradidōmi* means to surrender, yield, or hand over. Just as Jesus "handed over" His Spirit on the cross, the only response that makes sense is to hand over our lives to Him in return.

GETTING STARTED

- Tom pointed out that things almost never make sense when you're in the middle of a difficult situation, but they start to make sense when you look back. When was a time in your life that a challenging season only made sense in hindsight?

SCRIPTURE

- [Luke 24:13-16](#); [John 10](#); [John 19:30](#)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Jesus was killed not for being kind or helping the poor, but because He claimed to be God. Why does it matter that Jesus built His message around Himself rather than pointing away from Himself like other historical leaders?
- On the Road to Emmaus, Jesus was "sneaky" and chose to come alongside the disciples in an ordinary conversation rather than showing up in a spectacular way. Why do we often miss what God is doing when we only expect Him to arrive in a spectacular fashion?
- The disciples had lost hope and left Jerusalem on the third day, almost missing the miracle entirely. Why do you think it is our tendency to quit, walk away, or leave right before a spiritual breakthrough?

APPLICATION

- Are you currently in a confusing "Friday" or "Saturday" season regarding your marriage, career, or mental health where nothing makes sense? What does it look like for you to "hold on" this week and trust that God does His deepest work in our darkest moments?
- Tom suggested that God's blessings often come disguised as patience dressed like a teenager, or strength hidden inside sorrow. Where might Jesus be "sneaking up" on you in an ordinary, unexpected way right now?

RESOURCES

- The foundation of the Christian faith is not an inspired book, but the events that inspired the book. - Andy Stanely