

**Easter Sunday**  
Pastor Kevin Donoho  
March 31, 2024

**Opening Discussion**

- What thoughts, feelings, or impressions do you have about the sermon this week?

**Scripture**

**John 20:17 (NLT)**

*“Don’t cling to me,” Jesus said, “for I haven’t yet ascended to the Father. But go find my brothers and tell them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’”*

**1 Peter 1:3-4 (NIV)**

*“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you”*

**John 3:16 (NLT)**

*“For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.”*

**Romans 6:4**

*“For we died and were buried with Christ by baptism. And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives.”*

**Thought #1: His Death Was For You!**

When you sit with the idea of Jesus’ death being FOR YOU, how does this feel? John 3:16 emphasized the inclusivity of God giving His one and only son, how does this

verse influence your attitudes and actions towards others? How might this influence your attitudes or actions toward yourself?

With the foundation that God's love encompasses everyone, how does this impact your understanding of salvation and the purpose of evangelism in spreading the message of Christ?

How does the Easter message, particularly emphasizing that Jesus’ death was for us, deepen your understanding of how personal God's love is for each of us?

**Thought #2: He Died, So You Don’t Have To!**

Pastor Kevin reminded us that physically, we will all die. However, Jesus’ death gave us hope beyond that death. How does the assurance of eternal life through Jesus Christ affect your perspective on mortality and the fear of death? How does this assurance shape your daily life and decisions?

Reflect on the phrase "He died, so you don't have to." How does this understanding of Jesus' sacrifice bring comfort and hope to your daily life?

According to 1 Peter 1:3, believers are born into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. How does this living hope influence your outlook on life's challenges and uncertainties?

Considering the eternal inheritance promised in 1 Peter 1:4, does this idea influence the way you live your life in the present? How does it shape your perspective on worldly possessions and achievements?

**Thought #3: His Death Was For The Forgiveness of Your Sins!**

How does the understanding that Jesus' death was for the forgiveness of your sins resonate with your personal experiences of guilt, shame, and past mistakes? How does this realization change your perspective on your own imperfections and shortcomings?

Picture Psalm 103:12, where it describes how God removes our sins as far as the east is from the west. How does this image shape your understanding of the extent of God's forgiveness? How does it influence your ability to let go of the burden of past sins?

Pastor Kevin reminded us that Chris died so you wouldn't have to carry the weight of your past mistakes. How does this statement challenge or affirm your approach to dealing with the weight of sin in your life? How might it influence your interactions with others who are struggling with similar feelings?

#### **Thought #4: His Resurrection Means You Can Start Over!**

Reflecting again on 1 Peter 1:3-4, what does it mean to you personally to have the opportunity to start over because of Christ's resurrection? Consider the statement, "God not only extends forgiveness for the past, but says "I will not hold that against you" How does this understanding of God's mercy and grace inspire you to let go of past mistakes and embrace the opportunity for a fresh start?

How does the concept of being given new life through Jesus' resurrection challenge or affirm your beliefs about second chances and redemption? How does this impact your view of transformation and growth in your own life? In what practical ways can you embrace the opportunity for

a new beginning in light of Jesus' resurrection? How can you intentionally let go of past regrets and move forward with hope and confidence in God's promises?

#### **Thought #5: His Resurrection Means You Can Flourish!**

Reflecting on Romans 6:4, how does the idea of living new lives in Christ inspire you to pursue growth and flourishing in your personal journey? Consider the statement, "You can be hopeful for your future when you are in a relationship with the living hope of Jesus." How does this view of hope and flourishing shift your outlook on life's challenges and uncertainties?

In what ways do you currently see areas of flourishing in your life as a result of your relationship with God? How might you further nurture these areas and seek to expand your potential for growth and fulfillment? How can a deeper connection with the living hope of Jesus transform your struggles into opportunities for growth and flourishing?

Questions for Pastor Todd Keller or Julie Burch regarding your REMIX group?

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Julie [groups@collegechurch.com](mailto:groups@collegechurch.com)

\*\*\*Remember to record your attendance for the week. Thank you.

#### **How can we pray for each other this week?**

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