

## Connect Group Discussion Guide – 3/31/2024

### Easter Sunday – Jesus is Alive!

**Video Link:** <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQvR0S5fB8AzraGYts4eQfg> (Posted on Monday)

**Audio Only:** On Spotify or Apple Podcasts: Connection Point Podcast

#### Highlights

- **Matthew 28:1-2** How weird is this moment? Notice it's dawn – morning!
- **Matthew 28:3-4** The soldiers, passed out. **Would you?**
- **Matthew 28:5-6** The angel is saying, “you’ve come to the right spot, but come and see – it’s an invitation into the tomb. Jesus did everything He said He would!
- **Matthew 28:7-8** They are afraid, but at the same time filled with joy. **How does that work? Can you relate?**
- **Matthew 28:9** They SEE the Risen Savior
- **But the Empty Tomb is only half the story.**
- **John 20:19** It's now evening.
  - Fear – is deep within you, that you might lose control
  - Notice Jesus's first word is “Peace.” He's exchanging fear for peace. **Has He ever done that for you?**
- **John 20:20-21** It's really me. I am alive.
- **Why did the stone need to be rolled away if Jesus can walk into locked room?**
  - He didn't need the stone rolled away so He could get out. It was so we could go in!
  - So we could see He's no longer dead.
    - Come and see the one who didn't stay dead.
  - Jesus SHOWS us the empty tomb, on Easter and every day. **How do you see the empty tomb every day?**
- But showing us where He used to be isn't enough.
  - The other half of the story is He shows up in locked rooms. It's not just that He's not dead, He Is Alive!
- **What is YOUR locked room? What do you have locked up that Jesus needs to show up?** Tim mentioned things like pride, control, money, my future.
- There is nothing that can keep Jesus from encountering you! **Is that scare you, make you uncomfortable, or give you peace?**
- **We celebrate the empty tomb and we worship the Risen Jesus.**
  - A Risen Jesus who continues to pursue; who continues going into locked rooms.
  - Jesus is trying to get your attention.
- So what do we do?
  - **Come and see the empty tomb.**
  - **What areas of your life are off limits to God?** Remember Jesus enters locked rooms anyway!
  - **Will you choose to see and believe?**
    - Believe He died, He rose from the dead, He wants you to see Him and be filled with joy and peace.
    - The empty tomb is for you to come and see that He is not dead.
- When you open yourself to an encounter with Jesus, you truly learn He is alive.
  - That's why we say Jesus is changing my life, and not Jesus has changed my life.
- The moment we surrender our life to Jesus we also move from death to life.
  - You can see YOUR empty tomb.

**So what are you going to do?**