

## :: Summary

Easter this year is like no other. The effects of the coronavirus are felt acutely in the very different shelter-in-place way we celebrated the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And yet, where this disease can seem unstoppable, and barely manageable even at great cost, it is nothing compared to the matchless love, life, and promised future we have in Jesus Christ.

## :: Share

Can you describe a way in which the depth of your understanding of what Jesus has done for you was increased during the seven days (Palm Sunday through Holy Saturday) leading up to Easter?

In celebrating Easter while sheltering in place, what is one way God spoke to you and gave you strength or encouragement?

**:: Explore and Discuss** | 1 John 3:16, Romans 8:35-39, Revelation 21:1-5, 1 Corinthians 15:42-44, Romans 5:1-5

Why is counting on Christ's matchless love superior to anything else we can count on in this world? (1 John 3:16, Romans 8:35-39)

"Back to normal" is not what God promises. Why is that a good thing? How does Scripture's vision of the renewed creation strengthen you for day to day living in these times? (Revelation 21:1-5, 1 Corinthians 15:42-44)

Name at least one specific way that one of the truths contained in Romans 5:1-5 shapes the way you live in the world.

## :: Apply it to Your Life

Christian writer and philosopher Dallas Willard once said "The Gospel means that this universe is a perfectly safe place for you to be." What does this mean for the way you live life?

God's Word declares that believers start living their forever future from the moment of faith decision. What helps you fully live in light of God's promised future day by day, or conversely, what hinders your ability to live confidently and courageously day by day?



## :: Pray

Offer your praise, rejoicing and thanksgiving in response to the reality that Christ is risen indeed. Pray for each other to live in this world fueled by the victory of Jesus over sin and death and his matchless love and life.

