

Easter 2026: He is Risen!

Easter is not just a historical event, rather it is a present reality for everyone who believes. The resurrection proves that Jesus wasn't just a good teacher, prophet, or misguided martyr. He is the Son of God sent to accomplish on the cross what we could never accomplish on our own – restoration with God. And now the same power that raised Jesus from the dead lives in us through the Holy Spirit. But, what do we do with this information?

1 But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they went to the tomb, taking the spices they had prepared. 2 And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, 3 but when they went in they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. 4 While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men stood by them in dazzling apparel. 5 And as they were frightened and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, "Why do you seek the living among the dead? 6 He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, 7 that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be crucified and on the third day rise." 8 And they remembered his words, 9 and returning from the tomb they told all these things to the eleven and to all the rest. Luke 24:1-9

The Life: A Message of Hope Lived Out

14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son[a] from the Father, full of grace and truth. John 1:14

The Death: A Debt Paid in Full

8 but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:8

The Discovery: From Mourning to Motivation

5 But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. 6 He is not here, for He has risen, as He said. Come, see the place where He lay. 7 Then go quickly and tell His disciples that He has risen from the dead, and behold, He is going before you to Galilee; there you will see Him. See, I have told you." Matthew 28:5-7

The Commission: Our Marching Orders

16 Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. 17 And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. 18 And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." Matthew 28:16-20

We are here. We have heard. We believe. Now what? If we want to "go quickly and tell", we have to live in a way that demands an explanation. Here are a few practical ways to "tell" the Gospel through your life:

1. Radical Hospitality
2. Excellence and Integrity EVERYWHERE YOU GO
3. Uninterrupted Presence
4. Forgiving the “Unforgiveable”
5. Generosity that Doesn’t Make Sense

The message of the Resurrection was never meant to be a secret. It is a victory meant to be shared.

The Second Mile: *Going Beyond Sunday*

Let’s dig deeper together to see how God is calling and equipping each of us to reach the lost.

Monday – Easter is a time to gather in churches and homes. Do your gatherings reflect and remember the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus? How so? Why not?

Tuesday – Easter occurs during spring when new life is being seen in the flowers and nature around us. How does Christ’s resurrection also reflect new life in you? How has He made you a new creation?

Wednesday – The women found an empty tomb, great joy, and a big command. Go quickly and tell the others. In what ways and places is God calling you to “tell” others?

Thursday – Later, Jesus gave the Great Commission to the disciples to go and baptize in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. This was and is not optional. How are participating in that Great Commission in your life and in the church today?

Friday – There is more than one way to “tell” and show God’s love to others. Hospitality, meals, generosity, genuine presence, excellence, and forgiveness. How can you use these to authentically reflect Jesus and tell others about Him?