

Conversation Starters

- How do you typically celebrate Easter?
- What did you do different this year in light of COVID-19?

Discuss

In a time when we may have an abundance of trials and needs, we can still find joy in knowing God has already provided for our greatest need – rescue from our sin. Through Jesus, we can bring all of our needs to God, but God doesn't just want us to ask for help, He wants us to listen for help. In our circumstances right now, God may be trying to speak to us in some critical areas of life.

- Do you ever take time to just sit and listen to God?

One area God may be speaking to us is regarding our finances or where we place our trust. Some of us have had to make cutbacks or may be furloughed or out of a job. How we respond could tell us if we have been putting more trust in money, a job, or the economy than in God.

"Don't store up treasures here on earth, where moths eat them and rust destroys them, and where thieves break in and steal. Store your treasures in heaven, where moths and rust cannot destroy, and thieves do not break in and steal." ([Matthew 6:19-20 NLT](#))

- How are your finances being challenged right now?
- What are some things you treasure most?
- How would you invest everything you treasure if you had faith in God?
- Are you investing more in the world than in eternity?

It's easy to only think about our physical life as we know it, but Jesus overcoming death gives Christians hope for eternal life. While facing sickness and death, God may be reminding us that we should think in light of eternity, and not make our physical lives here and now everything (and the only thing) there is.

- When you think of life, do you think of only your physical life and not in light of eternity?
- Do you fear death?
- Does fear hold you back from doing anything?

God may also be speaking to us about our relationships. They most certainly look different now than they did. Whether distant from our friends and family or spending more time with them than we're used to, we can choose to be loving and spread hope in a world that desperately needs it.

- What is/are your most challenging relationships right now?
- What fault can you claim in the relationship(s)?
- How can you be more loving and spread hope right now?

Finally, God may be using this time to talk with you about where you are with Him. The same power that resurrected Jesus is available to everyone who chooses to trust and follow Jesus. Through Jesus, we enter into a life-changing relationship with God.

I also pray that you will understand the incredible greatness of God's power for us who believe him. This is the same mighty power that raised Christ from the dead and seated him in the place of honor at God's right hand in the heavenly realms. ([Ephesians 1:19-20 NLT](#))

- How have you been living your life up to this point?
- Knowing this power is available to us, how would or has it change(d) your life?
- What might God be saying to you right now?

Next Steps

[Jesus told us](#) that His claim to being God in the flesh would fall apart if He did not rise from the dead. Him rising validated His claim and gives us hope that there is life after death. That's why we celebrate Easter. Reflect on the life of Jesus and the hope that He provides us by defeating death. Spend some time in prayer thanking God for Jesus and the hope we have in Him.

A relationship with God will lead to a changed life. A life where God is in charge and one we can trust that He is leading us for the best. We all have room to grow. The [Meck Institute](#) is a great place to continue learning about God's teaching for your life.

If you're new to all of this, join us for [Starting Line](#) to learn a bit more about Meck and all of the different ways you can explore.

Have you made a decision to place your faith in Jesus? [Let us know](#) by allowing us to pray for your relationship and how God is leading you.

Want to take the weekend discussion a bit further? Join us for our [Virtual Groups](#) that meet online to discuss with others what we're learning each week and how it applies to everyday life.

Further Reflection

Read Matthew [12:38-40](#); [16:1-4,21](#); [Luke 18:31-33](#); [1 Peter 1:3](#); [1 Corinthians 15:13-20](#); [Psalm 49:20](#); [Luke 12:16-21](#); [Romans 6:4](#).

Pray

God, our world is in a crisis right now and many of us are facing challenges and have many needs, but You are ultimately in control and have already met our greatest need. We are sinners, yet You still love us. You loved us enough to sacrifice Your Only Son, Jesus. Thank You for Him and for His life, His death, and His resurrection. Help us to live our lives on the promise of Your life-changing power.