



Easter

Love, Hope, Peace, Forgiveness

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Love

Luke 2:1-7 (ESV)

“In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be registered, each to his own town. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.”

John 3:16 (ESV)

*“...**God so loved** the world, that he gave his only Son...”*

Romans 5:8 (ESV)

*“... but God shows **his love** for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”*

Hope

Luke 24:13-18 (NLT)

*“That same day two of Jesus’ followers were walking to the village of Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem. As they walked along they were talking about everything that had happened. As they talked and discussed these things, Jesus himself suddenly came and began walking with them. But God kept them from recognizing him. He asked them, **‘What are you discussing so intently as you walk along?’** They stopped short, sadness written across their faces. Then one of them, Cleopas, replied, “You must be the only person in Jerusalem who hasn’t heard about all the things that have happened there the last few days.”*

Luke 24:19-21 (NLT)

“What things?” Jesus asked.

*“The things that happened to Jesus, the man from Nazareth,” they said. “He was a prophet who did powerful miracles, and he was a mighty teacher in the eyes of God and all the people. But our leading priests and other religious leaders handed him over to be condemned to death, and they crucified him. **We had hoped** he was the Messiah who had come to rescue Israel. This all happened three days ago.”*

Renewed Hope

- 1. Jesus comes to where they are.**
- 2. They share their disappointment and hopelessness with Jesus.**
- 3. They listen to Jesus tell them who He really is.**

Luke 24:25-27

*“He said to them, **“How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?”** And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, He explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.”*

Renewed Hope

- 1. Jesus meets them where they are.**
- 2. They share their disappointment and hopelessness with Jesus.**
- 3. They listen to Jesus tell them who He really is.**
- 4. They invite Jesus to stay with them until they “recognize” Him.**

Luke 24:28-31

“As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus continued on as if he were going farther. But they urged him strongly, “Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over.” So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight.”

- If you find yourself on the road to Emmaus this Easter, in a season of lost hope?
- Know that Jesus meets you where you are.
- Tell Him of your hopelessness.
- Allow Him to show you through His word who He really is: God, Savior, King, HOPE.
- Invite Him to stay with you, spend time with you, share the journey with you, feed your soul, until you truly recognize Him for yourself!

Peace

John 12:23-28

“Jesus replied, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me.

“Now my soul is troubled, and what shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour. Father, glorify your name!”

John 14:1

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me.”

John 14:27

*“**Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you.** I do not give to you as the world gives. (Again he says) **Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.**”*

Forgiveness

Ephesians 1:7 (NLT)

“He is so rich in kindness and grace that he purchased our freedom with the blood of his Son and **forgave our sins.**”

II Corinthians 5:18-21 (NLT)

“...all of this is a gift from God, who brought us back to himself through Christ... For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people’s sins against them. And he gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation. ...We speak for Christ when we plead, “Come back to God!” For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin, **so that we could be made right with God** through Christ.”

John 3:16-17 (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. God sent his Son into the world not to judge the world, but **to save the world through him.**”