

The King Reigns

Merchantville Small Group Guide

Warm-Up Questions

1. What's one Easter tradition you grew up with—or one you never quite understood?
2. If your life had a “status bar” like your phone, what percentage would you say your soul battery is at today—and why?

Key Passage: Luke 24:1-7

This past Sunday, we heard a message that hit a little deeper than just a traditional Easter celebration. It reminded us that resurrection isn't just a historical event—it's deeply personal. We're not just talking about a King who conquered the grave, but one who meets us in our weakness, carries our scars, and invites us into something bigger than religion.

In this space, we want to reflect—not with polished answers, but with honest hearts. It's okay if you don't have it all together. In fact, that's where resurrection starts.

Questions for Discussion (Choose several that are relevant for your group):

1. Billy shared about feeling powerless during a season of anxiety. What's an area of your life right now where you feel powerless or at the end of yourself? What do you tend to do when you reach that place?
2. What would it look like to actually invite Jesus *into* that place—not to fix it immediately, but just to be present with you there?
3. Resurrection doesn't erase the pain, it redeems it. Can you name a wound or season from your past that God is still in the process of redeeming? How have you seen His presence in that journey?
4. If you were to be fully honest—what are the “tombs” you keep going back to? (Places, patterns, people, habits—anything that looks alive but keeps leaving you empty.)
5. Jesus still had scars. What's one scar you carry—emotionally, relationally, spiritually—that you've been afraid to let God use? What might healing or redemption look like for that scar?
6. When you think about God's kingdom, do you feel like a participant or just an observer? What would shift if you saw yourself as an active citizen, not a spiritual bystander?
7. What's something you've been trying to control or manage on your own—something you might need to lay down and trust God with this week?
8. What kind of community or spiritual habit would help you stay grounded in resurrection truth—not just on Easter, but in the rhythms of everyday life?

Challenge + Application:

Resurrection isn't just a moment to celebrate. It's a new way to live.

This week, take one bold but honest step into resurrection life—not by pretending you're okay, but by letting Jesus meet you right where you are. Pick one of these actions—or create your own:

- **Name your tomb.** Write down one area where you feel stuck, numb, or ashamed. Pray over it, asking Jesus to speak life into that place.
- **Tell someone the truth.** Share your story (or just part of it) with a trusted friend, mentor, or group member. Let someone see your scar.
- **Stop managing. Start surrendering.** Identify one thing you've been trying to control—and practice releasing it to God through prayer or journaling this week.
- **Practice resurrection.** Do one small, tangible act that reflects your hope in a living King—whether it's serving someone, forgiving someone, or simply resting like you believe grace is real.

Resurrection isn't something we earn. It's something we live from.

Let this week be a chance to walk in that life—imperfectly, honestly, but boldly.

Pray