

# Easter

AT ROCKY PEAK

REVELATION & RESPONSE  
WEEK OF APRIL 5

---

Welcome to the spring session of Life Groups! This week, we start with a potluck and covenant meeting. Your Life Group Leaders should have contacted you by now to confirm the meeting time and location, and what to expect at the first gathering. If you have not heard from your Life Group Leaders, please contact Samantha Poladian at (818) 709-0113, ext. 105, and she will help get you connected.

The Life Group Covenant explains the purpose of your Life Group, clarifies the expectations for being in your Life Group, and explains what you are committing to for this session. Your covenant will look different based on whether you are in an in-person or digital (Zoom) group.

As you prepare for your meeting, take some time to answer the questions in the study and bring them with you to your first meeting.

Enjoy!

## PAUSE

This weekend we had a beautiful time celebrating all Christ has done for us on the cross and through His resurrection. Spend a few minutes reflecting on these verses and give Him thanks for the hope we have been given.

*Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade.*

**1 Peter 1:3-4**

## CONNECT

**ICEBREAKER:** How did your family celebrate Easter when you were a kid (if at all), and how was it different, or similar, to how you celebrate today?

## STUDY

1. In the weekend message, we studied the famous speech Paul gave to the Athenian leaders in the Areopagus.

Read this account again in **Acts 17:16-34**.

- a. Based on this passage and what we learned from the weekend message, how would you describe the different worldview(s) of Paul's audience?

b. What similarities does this culture share with our own today?

c. In his speech, what truths did Paul share that you think had the greatest impact on that culture?

2. Michael highlighted ten big-picture truth claims Paul makes in his message. Review those truths in your message notes.

a. Which one sticks out to you the most, and why?

b. Which of these truths is most at odds with popular worldviews in our culture today?

c. Which of these truths is the hardest for you to believe, and why?

d. Which of these ten truths provides you with the most comfort, and why?

3. This weekend, we saw the three responses to Paul's message: *Skepticism*, *Openness*, and *Belief*. These three responses are still present in our culture today.

a. Which of these three responses played a part in your spiritual journey when you first learned about the Christian worldview, Jesus, and His resurrection?

b. How do you see examples of these three different responses in the lives of those you are close to (e.g., family, friends, coworkers)?

4. After the shock of Jesus' death, the disciples heard confusing reports that He was now alive. Then they encountered Him in a mysterious way. Read **John 20:19-31**. Note any words or phrases that stand out to you.

a. How does Thomas' initial response to the news of Christ's resurrection compare to the initial response of the other disciples?

b. How did Jesus respond to Thomas' doubt?

c. Why did John write this gospel that leads up to this final supernatural sign of Jesus' resurrection?

5. Easter is a time when many non-believers attend church. Did you bring any non-believers to church this weekend? If so, what was their response to the service?

- a. Take a few moments and pray for the non-believers who came this weekend—that they will respond to the truth of Christ and His resurrection.

## REFLECT

**Reread 1 Peter 1:3-4** at the top of this study. Because of Jesus's death and resurrection, we receive the forgiveness of sins, the power of the Spirit to rise with Christ to new life, and the hope of an amazing future in the next life.

- a. How does the resurrection of Jesus impact the way you see yourself, this life, and the future?
  
- b. What do you think your life would be like without the resurrection of Jesus as the central part of your faith?

As you wrap up this time with the Lord, take a few minutes to thank Him for His life, death, and resurrection.

## TOPICAL PRAYER

Prayer is an important part of each Life Group. Often those who are new to a Life Group are intimidated by praying aloud if they have never done it before. Others are so comfortable with prayer that they can take over the prayer time without meaning to. For these reasons, we suggest practicing topical prayer to help your group get comfortable praying together. Here are three basic guidelines:

### 1. Focus on a Single Topic/Request at a Time

Anyone in the group is free to introduce a prayer request. Once a topic is introduced, one or two members pray for that request. Then the Life Group Leader will direct the prayer time by sharing the next topic/request.

### 2. Pray Several Times Together

By focusing on one topic at a time, each member has an opportunity to pray at different times for the requests they are most passionate about.

### 3. Keep Requests/Prayers Short and Simple

By keeping both requests and prayers short and simple, everyone has a chance to share and pray. This helps those who are new to prayer feel more comfortable praying. It also helps everyone stay focused during your time of prayer together.