

OVERCOMING DISBELIEF

For the week of April 12, 2020

John 20:1-11

Full message available at highpoint.church/currentseries

Goal:

To understand and live out the victory of Jesus' resurrection.

GET GOING:

- What is a fun and creative Easter tradition you enjoy?
- The resurrection of Jesus Christ is central to Christianity. Without it, we have nothing (1 Corinthians 15:14-19). How has the reality of the "tomb being empty" taken on a new meaning for you these past few weeks?
- The decision to follow Jesus must be made by each person (John 20:1-5). If you identify as a Christian, what convinced you? What happened? What was the biggest barrier to your belief? If you have not yet made a decision, what challenges you the most about this quote from this weekend:

"I spent months in research. I even dropped out of school for a time to study in the historically rich libraries of Europe. And I found evidence. Evidence in abundance. Evidence I would not have believed had I not seen it with my own eyes. Finally I could come to only one conclusion: If I were to remain intellectually honest, I had to admit that the Old and New Testament documents were some of the most reliable writings in all of antiquity (ancient past)." -Josh McDowell

KEEP GROWING

- Easter Sunday reminds us that God's love changes everything. Read Mark 1:40-45 and 2:13-17. What similarities and differences do you notice about the Leper and Levi's state before and after encountering Jesus? What similarities and differences do you notice about the Leper's and Levi's response to Jesus and His community? What similarities and differences do you notice in each story about Jesus?

- The word “believed” is used 250 times in the New Testament. Of the 250 times, 90 times this word is found in the Gospel of John. Read John 20:30-31. Why do you think that believing “Jesus is the Christ” with mind, emotion and will is essential to following Jesus?
- Marcos (testimony video from this weekend) had a 180 degree turnaround after encountering Jesus. Read 2 Corinthians 5:17. What is one way (action or thought process) that has changed in you because of Jesus’ resurrection?
- Read 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24. How have you experienced the truth that “the first initial decision to start walking with Jesus is different from the life long journey of walking with Jesus (sanctification)?” What is the biggest lesson you have learned or are learning along the way?
- Choose and commit to one of the following this week:
 1. Because the tomb is empty, I will start _____ (a pattern, thought process or habit in my life that encourages and increases my desire for Jesus).
 2. Because the tomb is empty, I will stop _____ (a pattern, thought process or habit in my life that decreases my desire for Jesus).
 3. Because the tomb is empty, I will continue _____ (a pattern, thought process or habit in my life that is helping me pursue Jesus effectively).

Bonus Challenge

Based on this weekend, which step in the ABC’s (see below) to becoming a Christian do you need to take? Or, who is an unbeliever that God has placed in your life that you need to share the ABC’s to becoming a Christian? Write down his or her name.

A - Admit that you’re a sinner (Romans 3:23)

B - Believe that Jesus died and rose again as your only hope for salvation (John 3:16)

C - Confess that Jesus is Savior and Lord (Romans 10:9)

Memory Verse

“Because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved” (Rom. 10:9-10).

