



SDG Discussion Guide

Matthew 28:1-10

April 21, 2019

For Starters:

Do you have a memory from Easter as a child and if so, what is it?

What do you like to do first thing Sunday morning or any morning? Why?

Guideline: The following is meant to provide an approach for further interaction with the respective sermon text and surrounding passage. Feel free to forward to your small group members ahead of the respective Sunday. Group members may also find this write up in print on that Sunday.

First, as you can, read aloud the selected passage in your group. If you have time, read it aloud a second time - from a different Bible translation.

Before you begin your discussion, pray and ask God to speak to your group. Notice, what may God be highlighting for your discussion and learning?

Now that you have read the text together and prayed, what points and questions arise? Spend plenty of time in your group to address these points and questions. Explore and see how God may steer the discussion. The following are further questions you may use to guide your interaction with the text.

1. Who visits the tomb? When? Try to imagine and empathize with what they were feeling on their way to their visit. Discuss.
2. What is the significance of the earthquake? Try for a moment to envision how the angel looked ("like lightning," "clothes were white as snow"). Why do you think these details were significant to Matthew?
3. What is the significance of the angel reminding the women that Jesus had risen, "just as he said" (v 6)? What impact do you think those words had on the women?
4. What do you observe about the simplicity of being a witness in the angel's commands to "not be afraid" (v 5), "come and see" (v 6) and "go quickly and tell" (v 7)?
5. How do you think the women felt as they left the tomb? As they met Jesus?
6. How did the reality of Jesus' resurrection "dawn" upon you? Were you quick to believe? Or did it come through a process over time? What do you remember most about that moment of realization?
7. In light of Easter Sunday, pray with your group that God would help you to see what "new life" is before you this season. Ask God to show you how to respond to it.
8. Pray further with your group: What could "go quickly and tell" look like for you and your group this week?