
DAILY DEVOTIONAL

Happy Easter / Week 3

WEEK 3

EASTER MEANS YOU'RE NEVER ALONE.

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.

1 PETER 1:3 NIV

DAY 1

It's easy to look around at our world and see there is so much pain and suffering. In big and small ways, it's impacting the lives of everyone (maybe even us) every single day. Because of that reality, we often need to look for something good to hold onto—something to help us get through today and make it to tomorrow.

For believers in Jesus, the resurrection is that thing. Jesus didn't just die, but rose from the dead. We can have hope even in our pain and struggles, because Jesus conquered death. It is why we celebrate the Easter season. Remember the hope you have because of Jesus. **Thank Him for what He did in defeating death, thousands of years ago, so that you could have hope today.**

For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; **death no longer has mastery over him.**

ROMANS 6:9 NIV

DAY 2

Some competitions are no contest. Whether it's a battle at the box office for movie supremacy, an intense game on the football field for the state championship, or just two siblings fighting over the front seat on a road trip, sometimes the winner is clear from the start. The superhero movie is always going to dominate, the strongest team is typically going to win, and of course the older sibling is going to take the front seat in the end.

The same is true in the battle between Jesus and death. There was never a contest; death didn't stand a chance! And when we believe in Him, the fear and sting of death doesn't stand a chance against Jesus' power and purposes at work in us. As you think about Easter this season, keep this verse in mind. **Be encouraged of Jesus' victory over death and what it means for your life today.**

Through him you **believe in God**, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and **so your faith and hope are in God.**

1 PETER 1:21 NIV

DAY 3

Whether you are building a Lego set, playing Jenga, or drawing up the blueprints of a new home, having a strong foundation is essential. Having a strong foundation will determine whether a building will stand or crumble under pressure.

The same is true when it comes to your faith! The biggest and most important thing you can do is to make sure you've set the foundation of your faith on God and what He did for you through Jesus. Build your faith on that because there is no foundation stronger, more stable, or more capable of withstanding what life throws at you. How can you make sure you're building your faith on the strongest foundation? **Talk with a trusted friend, parent, or Small Group Leader about what it looks like to build your faith on Jesus.**

"I know that my redeemer lives, and that **in the end he will stand on the earth.**"

JOB 19:25 NIV

DAY 4

We've all experienced a time when it seemed all hope was lost. Maybe it was something small, like walking up to the counter to pay for lunch and realizing you forgot your wallet. Or maybe it was something much bigger, like getting bad news from the doctor about an illness or losing a relationship you thought was going to last. No matter what it was, big or small, it can leave you feeling hopeless. Experiencing that feeling is what makes this verse all the more important for our lives.

Isn't it encouraging to know that Jesus is alive? No matter what drama or problems we face, we are not facing these problems alone. Now ask yourself, is there something in my life leaving me feeling hopeless? Bring that to God right now! **Ask Him for hope when you feel hopeless. Ask Him to show you today that He is still alive and at work in your life.**

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. **No one comes to the Father except through me.**"

JOHN 14:6 NIV

DAY 5

Movies do an amazing job depicting the way a hero rises to the occasion to save the day. It's exciting to watch the story unfold, as all the pieces fall into place and the hero does what only they can do to save the day.

When you think about it, the story of your faith is the same. Jesus died on the cross for all humanity—something only He could do. He rose to the occasion to save us all—the ultimate hero move! Jesus' story is so much better than a movie because it is nonfiction. Jesus is the real deal. He truly saves and conquered death and sin. How cool is it that we get to participate in this amazing heroic story?

This week, look for opportunities to serve those around you by doing something that only you can do. Let it be a chance to show a small glimpse of the hero that Jesus is to someone in your life.