

Sermon Discussion Guide 3/31-4/6 VGroup Meetings

Sermon Title: A New Beginning - Matthew 28:1-10

Distribute name tags as people enter. Take attendance in FellowshipOne / collect new guest information including address, phone & email, etc. Allow folks to mingle, fellowship, and settle in with each other. Download/email resources from www.vgroups.org. Source for study guide, covenant, and more.

Open the session with prayer.

Discussion Starter/Ice Breaker: (15-20 mins)

If you could go back to any moment in your life and make a fresh start, what would you do?

Discussion Questions: (45 mins)

1. Read the focus verses from the sermon together - Matt 28:1-10. Reflect on the 3 main topics from the sermon & answer these questions. Surprise, Fear, Excitement.
 - a. Who are the main “characters” we see in these verses?
 - b. What reaction did each one have?
 - c. How do you think you would have reacted?
2. Let's explore the bible together and process some more.
 - a. Matthew 12:38-40 / Matthew 16:21 / Matthew 17:22-23 / Matthew 20:17-19
3. After looking at these verses.
 - a. Where would you expect the disciples to be on the morning of the resurrection?
 - b. What reaction would you expect from them when they heard the tomb was empty?
4. The Disciples & others close to Jesus witnessed first hand the miracles & ministry He had.
 - a. Why do you think those closest to Him seemingly forgot that He was coming back on the 3rd day? Do you think that seeing Him die on the cross affected their belief?
 - b. Do you ever forget about Him & the promises He's made? How does He remind you?
 - c. Some have argued that the story of the resurrection was fabricated by the disciples. If faced with this argument, how would you respond?
5. Continue thinking about expectations & what you've seen Jesus do in your life.
 - a. What expectations do you have in the way Jesus acts or moves in your life?
 - b. What about your expectations when you walk into church or bring a friend to church?
 - c. What are your expectations through prayer & in your quiet times?
6. Read Romans 6:3-4 & 2 Corinthians 5:16-21 together.
 - a. Why is it important to know that Jesus defeated death & rose from the grave?
 - b. If Jesus has power over death, do you trust that He can give you a new beginning?
7. Thinking about your story, reflect on the moment you accepted Christ as Savior & the days following. Did you experience surprise, fear, & excitement? Can you point to times as you have walked with Christ where you've felt these things? Share examples with the group.

Closing: Open the floor for discussion / questions.

Prayer Requests:

Close in prayer.

