

GENESIS

begin. belong. believe.

Love Realized – Easter Sunday, 2012.

Big Idea

Jesus wants to have a relationship with you! That's the amazing truth behind God's divine rescue plan that conquered sin and death through the cross and resurrection of Jesus. The resurrection changes everything for us. It means:

- we have life eternal – John 6:40; 1 John 5:11-13
- our sins are forgiven, no longer condemned – Romans 8:1; Colossians 2:13-14
- we have peace with God – Romans 5:1
- we are a new creation – 2 Corinthians 5:17
- we have everything we need in Jesus – Philippians 1:21

Questions

This week, take time to talk through the Gospel (*Luke 24 is a great narrative for this*) and seek to understand how the truths of what God has accomplished in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus (the Gospel) is working out in our lives. To encourage that, here are some questions to serve as guides.

1. After 2+ years of following Jesus, Jesus asked his disciples, specifically Peter who they (he) said He was (**Matthew 16:13-16**). Peter had an answer – what about you? Who do you say that Jesus is? How is your answer shaping how you live?
2. The Gospel is not just information about Jesus, its the power of God (Romans 1:16). What are some practical ways in which you see the Gospel at work in your life? What would be some areas or aspects of your life where you desire to see the Gospel bring transformation?
3. Read **2 Corinthians 5:16-18**. Is the new creation showing up in our lives? Do we think of ourselves as a part of this new creation or allow our past to shape/determine how we live and act? What are some practical ways in which we can live out the newness that Christ has brought about?
4. If we belong to God through our union with Christ, then we are to sacrificially give ourselves in service to God and others. In other words, we are live for the one who gave Himself for us (**2 Corinthians 5:15**). In what ways do you see yourself living in response to what Jesus accomplished for you? How can we encourage each other toward sacrificial living?