**THE PROMISE KEPT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING**

**Mark 16:1-7**

**JESUS PROMISED HE WOULD RISE FROM THE DEAD AND HE DID**

* *“’Don’t be alarmed,’ he told them. ‘You are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they put Him.’”* (Mark 16:6)
* *“Jesus answered, ‘Destroy this temple, and I will raise it up in three days.’ 20 Therefore the Jews said, ‘This temple took forty-six years to build, and will you raise it up in three days?’ 21 But he was speaking about the temple of his body.”* (John 2:19-21)
* **Because Jesus is God and cannot lie, He got up and walked out of that tomb like a Boss!**

**JESUS PROMISED HE WOULD FORGIVE OUR SINS AND HE DOES**

* *“Then He took a cup, and after giving thanks, He gave it to them and said, ‘Drink from it, all of you. 28 For this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.’”* (Matthew 26:27-28)
* **The shed blood of Jesus paid the sin debt that we could not pay, and His resurrection secured our victory over death!**
* *“He was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification.”* (Romans 4:25)
* *“If we walk in the light as He himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.”* (1 John 1:7)

**JESUS PROMISED HE WOULD GIVE BELIEVERS ETERNAL LIFE AND HE WILL**

* *“For God loved the world in this way: He gave His one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life.”* (John 3:16)
* Jesus – *“Truly I tell you, anyone who hears My word and believes Him who sent Me has eternal life and will not come under judgment but has passed from death to life.”* (John 5:24)
* Jesus – *“For this is the will of my Father: that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him will have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day.”* (John 6:40)
* Jesus - *“I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in Me, even if he dies, will live.”* (John 11:25)
* **The resurrection of Jesus is Good News for ALL who believe through faith that Jesus is the Son of God and call on His name for redemption.**

**CONNECT GROUP DISCUSSION**

**ICE BREAKER:** **What is your earliest memory of Easter?**

**Observation**

* READ MARK 16:1-8
* Who was it that went to the tomb early Sunday morning and found the tomb empty? Why was this significant?
* What are some of the reasons we know Jesus rose from the dead?
* Why is it important to discuss the crucifixion and the resurrection as a whole when talking about what Easter means?

**Understanding**

* Do you find any part of the Easter story difficult to believe? If so, which part(s)?
* How does the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus impact your faith?
* Why is the reality of resurrection essential to the Christian faith?
* How can/do you overcome objections to the resurrection of Jesus? What overwhelming evidence can you share to refute those who say Jesus did not rise from the dead?
* What encourages you the most about the reality of the resurrection?

**Loving Outward:**

* Who do you need to share the gospel with this week?
* Who do you need to follow-up with regarding the gospel?
* Who are you bringing to church next Sunday?