

## Small Group Discussion: Easter Week

### Start it:

1. What was your earliest childhood memory of Easter?
2. What is your favorite holiday?

### Share it:

1. In His sermon Jim talked about 3 Christian Holidays. What did he say was the significance of Christmas, Good Friday and Easter? (See Below for some thoughts)
2. Each of these is significant in different ways and at different times in our lives one is generally more significant than one of the others. Take a few minutes and share times and situations when each has been significant.
3. This year which is most important to you?
4. What were the circumstances under which the cross first became significant to you?
5. In what ways does the Resurrection impact your daily life?

### Study it:

#### Read Luke 24:1-12

1. These verses give a synopsis of the Gospel message. What is it? (See 1 Corinthians 15:1-9)
2. Why is the cross important? What is Easter important?
3. Why do you think it is important to note that Jesus had told them ahead of time what was going to happen?
4. If you had been there that first Easter morning, what would have been going through your head? Would you have believed? What did it take for you to believe (were you just brought up accepting, did you ever doubt)?
5. Why do you think the apostles didn't believe the women? What kinds of similarities are there between the apostles' disbelief and those who aren't Christian today?
6. What did new life mean for the women? For Peter? For You? For you tomorrow?
7. If Peter's new life ended with his own cross, how was this attractive?
8. Jim mentioned that everyday should be a "holy day" (holiday), for everyday we have the opportunity to live in the shadow of the cross. What do you think he meant by that? What would it mean to celebrate Jesus' death and resurrection each day?

### Apply it:

1. What evidence do you find in Chapter 24 that would help someone who had doubts whether the Bible was truly God's Word, or about the Resurrection?
2. Jim mentioned that everyday should be a "holy day" (holiday), for everyday we have the opportunity to live in the shadow of the cross. What do you think

he meant by that? What would it mean to celebrate Jesus' death and resurrection each day?

Comments: You also might read Romans 4:25, 1 Corinthians 15:17 and Revelation 1:18 to help in your discussion about the resurrection. Jim mentioned that Christmas was about God's love for creation, and showed that He loves us enough to be one with us, we are not alone. Good Friday is about God's judgment, showing that God cares about evil and justice. And that the Resurrection shows God's will for a new world, it is the promise of new life.