

Keep Celebrating!

Did you know that the early church began meeting on Sundays (the first day of the week) instead of Saturdays (the traditional “Sabbath day”) to commemorate Jesus’ resurrection from the dead? That’s why we meet on Sundays to this day!

No doubt, God intends for us to think about and celebrate the centerpiece of our faith more than just once a year. Here are some ways to continue to meditate on and celebrate Jesus’ resurrection from the dead—and all that it means for you:

- **Watch or listen to messages in this sermon series.** Use the Hopevale app on your smart phone to “Watch Services” or “Listen”, or go to hopevale.org/services on your computer.
- **Take a break from your TV and other media to listen to—and sing!— songs about Jesus’ death and resurrection.** The songs from our worship services the last few weeks are a great place to start!

*For nothing good have I
Whereby Thy grace to claim,
I’ll wash my garments white
In the blood of Calv’ry’s Lamb.*

*Jesus paid it all,
All to Him I owe;
Sin had left a crimson stain,
He washed it white as snow.*

- **Watch a movie about Jesus’ death and resurrection** such as *Risen* (in theaters now) or *The Passion of the Christ*. The Visual Bible *Gospel of Matthew* or *Gospel of John* are also accurate and excellent depictions of the last days of Jesus.

Don’t let this special holiday slip away too quickly. Take opportunities to thank Him and worship Him and ponder. . .

Easter egg hunts, baskets, candy, and family dinners—the Easter holiday gives us parents natural opportunities to deepen our children’s connections with family and with Christ. Include your children in as much of the preparation as you can and especially in the fun. And be intentional about connecting this special family holiday with the central miracle of the entire Bible—Jesus came back to life after being dead for three days. He’s alive today!

THE SAVIOR WHO WINS
The Last Days of Jesus series

Greatest Comeback in History

Easter is a story about winning. It's a story about Jesus winning the most improbable comeback victory ever. Pastor Dan

1. Did you play a sport in school? Are your children or grandchildren involved in sports? What's the good side of us wanting to be part of a winning team?
2. Think of a time that you committed yourself to something or someone hoping to "win"—and it didn't work out? How did you feel? What did you do then?
3. How did the last days of Jesus unfold for His disciples? (These verses will get you started.) Imagine what you would think and how you would feel if you were there.
 - Mark 14:27-31—
 - Matthew 26:55-56—
 - John 18:25-26—
 - Luke 24:36-43—
4. When did you first connect the Easter holiday with the story of Jesus rising from the dead? What or who helped you make the connection?
5. Do you think it's important to believe that Jesus' resurrection is an actual historical event instead of a legend that Christians embellished over the years? Why or why not? Can we believe that with integrity? Explain.
6. Do *you* believe Jesus actually came back to life? How does His resurrection make a difference in your life here and now? What do these verses teach?
 - Colossians 3:1-11—
 - Acts 3:11-16—
 - Philippians 3:17-21—

Jesus said. . . "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, 26 and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?" John 11:25-26