



Harbor Trinity Groups

Discussion Questions

Sermon Title: Good Friday & Easter Sunday

Scripture: John 18-19; Matthew 28:1-8; Mark 16:1-8; Luke 24:1-12; John 20:1-13; 1 Corinthians 15:1-22

Date: April 5th, 2026

Speaker Name: Justin Chandler

1. Were you able to join us for one of our Good Friday services? If so, what was your experience?
2. During the service, we read John 18-19 (if time permits, you are welcome to do so again as a group). We often read Scripture in portions, when was the last time you read the entirety of the crucifixion narrative?
3. There are many layers to the crucifixion of Jesus. As you review the section headers of John 18-19, is there a particular portion that sticks out to you as we have read this week?
4. As we began Easter Sunday, have you ever considered the question, “How hard is it to keep a secret?”
5. Chuck Colson shared a powerful observation for the validity of the resurrection based upon his experience with Watergate. How does his testimony provide a significant testimony for the historicity of the resurrection?
6. Following the resurrection of Jesus, the disciples had everything to lose and very little little to gain if it were a lie. How does the remainder of the lives and their commitment to Jesus unto death speak to their personal experience with Him?
7. The gospel accounts of Jesus’ resurrection are found in Matthew 28:1-8, Mark 16:1-8, Luke 24:1-12, and John 20:1-13. What are the different vantage points and experiences that each gospel writer brings?
8. We often read the gospel narratives independently. On Easter Sunday, we read them together. Did you find this exercise helpful? Have you ever read a Synopsis of the Four Gospels (each gospel listed in individual columns to highlight parallel passages; see next page)?
9. Following the resurrection of Jesus, the disciples did not primarily preach about what Jesus taught or the miracles He performed, they spoke of His resurrection. Why does this matter?
10. 1 Corinthians 15 reveals Paul the apostle’s response to the resurrection of Christ. 1 Corinthians 15:3-11 reveals the testimony of the early church of Jesus’ resurrection. 1 Corinthians 15:12-19 reveals the personal implications. Let’s discuss these together.
11. The disciples asked the question, “What now?” following Jesus’ death. The question grew exponentially in His resurrection. As you consider the implications of Good Friday and Easter Sunday, what is the “what now?” that God is speaking to you?

Matthew 28:1–8 (ESV)

1 Now after the Sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. 2 And behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. 3 His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. 4 And for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead men. 5 But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. 6 He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. 7 Then go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him. See, I have told you.” 8 So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples.

Mark 16:1–8 (ESV)

1 When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. 2 And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. 3 And they were saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?” 4 And looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back—it was very large. 5 And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe, and they were alarmed. 6 And he said to them, “Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here. See the place where they laid him. 7 But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.” 8 And they went out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

Luke 24:1–12 (ESV)

1 But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they went to the tomb, taking the spices they had prepared. 2 And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, 3 but when they went in they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. 4 While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men stood by them in dazzling apparel. 5 And as they were frightened and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, “Why do you seek the living among the dead? 6 He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, 7 that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be crucified and on the third day rise.” 8 And they remembered his words, 9 and returning from the tomb they told all these things to the eleven and to all the rest. 10 Now it was Mary Magdalene and Joanna and Mary the mother of James and the other women with them who told these things to the apostles, 11 but these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. 12 But Peter rose and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; and he went home marveling at what had happened.

John 20:1–13 (ESV)

1 Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. 2 So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.” 3 So Peter went out with the other disciple, and they were going toward the tomb. 4 Both of them were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. 5 And stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. 6 Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there, 7 and the face cloth, which had been on Jesus’ head, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself. 8 Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; 9 for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead. 10 Then the disciples went back to their homes. 11 But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb. 12 And she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet. 13 They said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.”

