

EASTER

Brought to You By

INTRODUCTION

Lots of people all over the world appreciate, respect, and even follow the teachings of Jesus without believing he rose from the dead. But the people who recorded his story and teachings wouldn't recommend that. Their message was clear: Jesus rose from the dead. He is *Savior* and *Lord*.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Talk about your favorite childhood memory of Easter.
2. What Easter traditions—religious or secular—do you currently observe? What do they mean to you?
3. Why do you think people pay attention to Jesus' teachings even if they don't believe in his resurrection?
4. Do you agree with the idea that the foundation of Christians' faith is the event of the resurrection and not Jesus' teachings? Why or why not?
5. What did you hear in Andy's message that inspired you? What, if anything, did you hear that bothered you?
6. In the message, Andy drew a distinction between "believe that" and "trust in." Do you currently only believe that the things Jesus taught are wise and good or have you crossed the line and placed your trust in his resurrection?

MOVING FORWARD

Christians don't believe that Jesus rose from the dead because the Bible says so. They believe it because people who knew Jesus said they *saw* him alive after his crucifixion—men like Matthew, John, Peter, and James. These men gave their lives and their livelihoods for what they said they saw.

If you respect Jesus and his teachings, but have never crossed the line and put your trust in him as a risen personal *Savior*, there will never be a better day than today . . .

CHANGING YOUR MIND

"Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved."

Acts 4:12