

Easter Series – THE BIG WIN

It's the most important event in the history of created universes. All that's been made by God fell when Adam and Eve sinned in the garden. But God did not leave humanity without hope. He immediately implemented a plan that would give every person the opportunity to release rebellion and receive God's grace and God's gift. Easter means you can win over your shame, your hurts, your doubts, your death and even your judgment. It's Easter: enjoy the BIG WIN!

March 15 Win Over Shame John 8:1-11

All of us have regrets. We have done things we've kept secret because we're ashamed. Some of our regrets may have been discovered and it can be hard to look people in the eye who know about them. Easter gives us the opportunity to defeat our shame because Jesus has forgiven our shameful choices. To prepare, read John 8:1-11.

March 22 Win Over Hurt Psalm 147:1-9; Isaiah 53:1-5; Revelation 21:1-5

All of us have been hurt by someone who was supposed to support us or protect us. Other hurts we have brought upon ourselves. Those hurts can last a lifetime if we let them. Easter promises us that Jesus has taken upon Himself the hurts of everyone. We can overcome our past hurts if we embrace Easter's purpose. To prepare, read Psalm 147, Isaiah 53:1-5 and Revelation 21:1-5.

March 29 Palm Sunday – Win Over Doubt Matthew 8:23-27; 14:22-33; 21:1-11

The first question we need to ask at Easter is, "Who is Jesus?" For many people, the life, death and resurrection of Jesus is hard to believe. Even those who have believed for years can still have doubts. How do I honestly ask my questions without collapsing under doubt? To prepare, read Matthew 8:23-27; 14:22-33 and 21:1-11.

April 3 Good Friday – Win Over Failure John 19:16-42; Romans 6:1-4

Sadness filled the earth the day Jesus was crucified. But His words, "It is finished" make the horrific events of that day truly amazing. While torture, death and burial were the focus of the moment, the purpose of His crucifixion reminds us we will not stay in the grave. He was crucified for our failure and buried to rise again...and so are we. To prepare, read John 19:16-42 and Romans 6:1-4.

April 5 Easter Sunday – Win Over Death Luke 24

Nearly everyone has attended a funeral. If you haven't, you probably will. Someone you know and love will die. And, your body will ultimately die. Without Easter, it's a hopeless feeling with the deepest of sadness. But with the resurrection of Jesus, we can stand at the grave of a Christ-follower and know this hole and dirt are not the final "resting place." Easter is all about rising from death. To prepare, read Luke 24 and focus on verses 45-49.

April 12 Win Over Judgment John 3:16-21; Romans 8:1-4; 1 John 4:13-18

Easter is all about eternal life, living forever in heaven with God and all those who believed in Jesus. One of the things repeated over and over in the Bible is that we will all stand before Jesus Christ on the judgment day. How can we know for sure we will be found worthy to enter God's heaven? How can I be sure I will defeat eternal judgment to gain eternal life? To prepare, read John 3:16-21, 2 Corinthians 5:1-10 and 1 John 4:13-18.