



## Discussion Guide: Easter Sunday | Let Hope Arise

### **Begin with prayer**

5 min

### **Check In**

20-30 min

Spend a few minutes catching up on life with one another.

- Fruit: what has been bringing you joy lately?
- Thorn: what have you been struggling with lately?
- Vine: how have you seen or been connecting with God lately?
- Bud: what are you looking forward to?

### **Discuss this week's practice**

5-10 min

- How'd you do with practicing the Sabbath this week?

### **Discuss this week's sermon**

10-15 min

- Everyone brought something to the first Easter Service. Peter brought shame/regret. John brought questions. Mary brought grief. The other nine brought fear. Thomas brought doubt. Which of these most resonates with you and why?
- Mark said the Jesus brought peace, presence, and power out of the grave with Him. How have you experienced each of these recently?

### **Open your bibles together**

25-30 min

- Read John 20:1-10
- The disciples were still reeling from the loss of their Rabbi on Easter Sunday. Many of them were dealing with loss in their own ways. How do you deal with loss?
- How do you imagine the early followers of Jesus would have felt had his body just been stolen?
- Can you think of a situation where you expected the worst, but ended up being surprised by God?
- Read John 20:11-16



- Still in pain over the loss of her Messiah, Mary was unable to recognize Jesus. What are some things that are hard to see when we focus on our pain?
- Mary had come to anoint Jesus' body, which is a way of honoring someone who's passed away. Who's someone in your life that is worth honoring. How do you honor them?
- How would you have reacted to hearing Jesus call your name and realizing He was alive?
- Read Ephesians 1:18-20
- Where have you seen God's resurrecting power in your life?
- Resurrection can often sound like a hope that is for the next life, and not this one. How does the hope of resurrection affect us on this side of eternity?
- How do we use the power of Christ to fulfil the mission of Christ in our everyday lives?

### **Prayer for one another**

10 min

- Encourage the person who's assigned over prayer request to get them at this time

### **Talk about the coming week's practice**

5 min

- Make sure that everyone knows where to find the practice guide on the website.