

BIG IDEA

The empty tomb should always lead to an empty chair.

WHAT DOES GOD WANT ME TO KNOW?

Tell your best “empty gas tank” story to the group. Do you fill your tank up regularly, or do you wait until the last minute?

How would you define the word *emptiness*? Had it ever occurred to you that *empty* could be a good thing?

Read the account of the empty tomb in Luke 24:1-35. As you read, pay special attention to the way that Jesus’ followers responded to the news of the empty tomb. What patterns are you noticing?

Disbelief and confusion seemed to be the immediate response of Jesus’ followers when they heard that the tomb was empty. Once they became convinced that Jesus was really alive, everyone sprang into action to tell others what they had discovered.

Reflect on the mindset of the disciples when they first heard about the empty tomb. How did their attitude change over the course of the account? How can you relate?

WHAT IS MY INITIAL REACTION?

Can you think of a time in your life when you, like the disciples, had lost all hope? How did you make it through this time?

Reflect on the C. S. Lewis quote from this weekend’s message:

“If I find in myself desires which nothing in this world can satisfy, the only logical explanation is that I was made for another world.”

Read Ephesians 4:10-14. What area(s) of emptiness do you need Christ to fill?

The passage in Ephesians tells us that the ascended Christ is the one who fills all things. We may be tempted to find fulfillment in other places, but only Christ can truly satisfy.

WHAT AM I GOING TO DO?

Read 1 Corinthians 15:13-14. When did you first come to believe that Jesus had really risen from the dead? What difference did it make in your life then? Has the impact waned?





LIFE GROUPS

LEADER GUIDE

Many of us may look back fondly on the days when we first came to be in relationship with Christ. The reality of his resurrection and the gift of his grace and forgiveness were probably very tangible in that season. It is also common for that excitement to wane as the challenges and comfort of everyday lull us into complacency. This is one reason why we celebrate Easter every year, to be reminded of the power of resurrection in the lives of believers.

What kind of promise does the empty tomb hold for you today?

While it is true that the empty tomb shows us that death is not the end, Jesus' resurrection has more to offer us than the promise of eternal life. Check out Romans 8:11 for an encouraging verse on this subject.

What is keeping you in your chair?

