



HOME  
CHURCH

bridge

## Easter/Born Again

*Sunday, April 12, 2020*



TALK  
ABOUT IT

- Share your favorite Easter memories with one another. (ex. Family time, Easter traditions, Church service, Easter egg hunt, A decision to commit to God, etc.)



PRAYER

Easter is a perfect day to remember, celebrate, and glorify Jesus Christ. It's a day we celebrate both His goodness and His greatness. Spend a few minutes praying together. **Start by praying Colossians 1:15-23a out loud, which is a declaration of who Jesus is and what He has done, and finish by praying with your own words.**

### **Colossians 1:15-23a**

Jesus is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him, if indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven.



**SERMON +  
WORSHIP**

**Watch this week's Sermon and Worship Set**  
*(reminder, it's easiest to watch it from the YouTube playlist)*



**TALK  
ABOUT IT**

- **Start by celebrating anyone in your home/group who put their faith in Jesus, and spend a moment praying for others across Bakersfield who are making that decision.**
- **Through the story of John 3, Pastor Jeff shared that we are saved not by our outward actions, but by being born again of the Spirit. How does the message that we can't earn our salvation give you hope? Why is it important?**
- **Through Galatians 2:20 and 2 Corinthians 5:17 we see that once we put our faith in Jesus, our old selves have died and the new is born. How does Jesus's resurrection give you the power to live as a new creature?**



## PRACTICE POINTS

- During his stem cell transplant, Pastor Jeff had a moment where God opened his eyes to what it means to be ‘born again’. Do you have a moment you can share where God opened your eyes to a truth in the Bible?
- Share with one another a Bible verse that gives you hope.
  - ➔ Every day this week, find one new Bible verse that points you to Jesus as your Savior and living hope. Write it down on a note card and place it somewhere in your house. By the end of the week, you will have seven places in your house to remind you of the goodness and greatness of God!

**Want additional content to dive into during the week? Try this:**



## DIG DEEPER

*These prompts can be used one-per-day or for an extended time on your own, with your spouse or family members, or with your small group:*

- **Easter is a day to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus! Read the story of Jesus’s resurrection in the 4 Gospels: Matthew 28:1-10, Mark 16:1-18, Luke 24:1-12, John 20:1-10.**
  - What stands out to you in each of the four accounts?
  - How does each author’s perspective help you to praise God more?

- **Pastor Jeff mentioned 1 Peter 1:3 as a reference to God causing us to be born again. Read all of 1 Peter 1:3-12, titled in the ESV 'Born Again to a Living Hope.'**
  - We have a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus and an inheritance that is 'imperishable, undefiled, and unfading.' How can you lean on these truths in difficult times?
  - How does this passage talk about the various trials we face (knowing many are facing trials of different kinds today)?
  - Though we do not now see Jesus, we love Him. How can our love for Jesus grow in our time on Earth?
- **We are born again, brand new creations where the old has passed away. Yet, we all still struggle with sin. Read and study the following passages that talk about the struggle of still having to 'put on the new self', 'walk in the spirit', and 'walk in the light'. Galatians 5: 16-26, Colossians 3:1-17, Ephesians 4:17-5:21, 1 John 1:5-2:6.**
  - How can we put on our new selves and walk in the light?
  - What does it mean to keep Jesus' commandments even when we sin?