



Easter

Pastor Dave Patterson Easter 2021—This Kind of Love 4.4.2021

USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

We have provided all the Scriptures references in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to discuss the weekend message.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together. Give priority to the needs and pace of your group members.

While the questions are important, remember your group's goal is to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships. Use the discussion questions as you see fit but emphasize the relationships.

[1 Corinthians 15:12-23]

But tell me this—since we preach that Christ rose from the dead, why are some of you saying there will be no resurrection of the dead? ¹³ For if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised either. ¹⁴ And if Christ has not been raised, then all our preaching is useless, and your faith is useless. ¹⁵ And we apostles would all be lying about God—**for we have said that God raised Christ from the grave.** But that can't be true if there is no resurrection of the dead. ¹⁶ And if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised. ¹⁷ **And if Christ has not been raised, then your faith is useless and you are still guilty of your sins.** ¹⁸ In that case, all who have died believing in Christ are lost! ¹⁹ And if our hope in Christ is only for this life, we are more to be pitied than anyone in the world.

But in fact, Christ has been raised from the dead. He is the first of a great harvest of all who have died.

So you see, just as death came into the world through a man, now the resurrection from the dead has begun through another man. Just as everyone dies because we all belong to Adam, everyone who belongs to Christ will be given new life. But there is an order to this resurrection: Christ was raised as the first of the harvest; then all who belong to Christ will be raised when he comes back.

This is an all or nothing account of a moment in history!

[John 3:16-17]

For **God so loved the world that he gave** his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

Dead religion condemns people; religious people have a way of letting people know that “you’re here” and “they’re there.” The ministry of Jesus is the antithesis of that: kindness and grace.

Love is the motivation, and rescue is the result.

1. This kind of Love is Sacrificial.

[John 15:13]

“Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends”

[Romans 5:6-8, NLT]

When we were utterly helpless, Christ came at just the right time and died for us sinners. ⁷ Now, most people would not be willing to die for an upright person, though someone might perhaps be willing to die for a person who is especially good. ⁸ But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.

[John 10:18]

No one can take my life from me. I sacrifice it voluntarily. For I have the authority to lay it down when I want to and also to take it up again.

2. This kind of Love is redemptive (*buys back what has been stolen or wasted*).

[Galatians 3:13]

“Christ purchased our freedom **and** redeemed us”

3. This kind of love never condemns, but reaches to where we are.

TALK IT THROUGH

1. When was an all or nothing moment for you?
2. What does Easter mean to you, your family, or your circle?
3. Where have you experienced Resurrection power in your life?
4. Fill in the blank: “This kind of Love _____.”