



Small Group Questions: Signs

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Read

Matthew 28:5–6; Colossians 2:13 –14; 1 John 8–9; Ruth 2:15–16; 1 Corinthians 2–9; 2 Corinthians 4:16–18

Reflect

As the first day of the week dawned after Christ's crucifixion, two women went to his tomb with prepared spices. There, they saw an angel and the stone no longer blocking the tomb. The angel told them not to be afraid and that Jesus was not there. He had risen from the dead. Yet, the angel knew they would want a sign. So the angel showed them where the body had been. Although the tomb had been sealed and guarded, nothing could stop God's plan for the resurrection of his Son on the third day.

Have you ever wished that you could get a clear sign from God about something?

Pastor Greg provides us three signs from Easter that build our faith:

1. The cross is a sign that I can be forgiven of all my sin.
 - a. Have you asked for God's forgiveness for your sins, mistakes, and regrets?
 - b. Are you allowing yourself to receive God's forgiveness? Or are you still carrying around the burden?
 - c. Do you tend to take some of that sin back for some reason, after setting it on the altar?
 - i. Are you letting shame, guilt, or doubt keep you from truly forgiving yourself for _____? (You fill in the blank.)
 - ii. Why would you keep paying a penalty for sins that Christ has already paid in full?
2. The angel is a sign that reminds me of the current favor of God in my life.
 - a. Do you believe that God is for you? Or do you feel that he is often against you? Explain.
 - b. Are you trying—or have you tried—to be self-sufficient and live without God?
 - i. If you have submitted your life to God, how has it changed?
 - c. Christ commands his blessings be given to those who believe in him. If you decided to see God's favor in your life, how would that change the way you live every day?
 - d. Is there a specific change you need to make in your attitude?
 - e. What physical signs help remind you of God's favor in your life?
3. The empty tomb is a sign that reminds me of God's promise for my future.
 - a. Have you experienced the death of a dream, or a relationship, or maybe even hope?
 - i. Are you limiting God's ability to turn that death into life?
 - ii. Are you aligning your sight with where you are now, or where you are going?
 - b. Christ guaranteed you a hope and a future. Would you say you are living with that in mind?
 - c. Are you making active or passive choices? Forgiveness or holding onto bitterness and anger? God's favor or guilt and shame?
 - d. Are your eyes focused on Heaven or the tomb?

Respond

What is your next step? Where is God leading you? How can your small group support you and hold you accountable in this?