

Seacoast Easter 2019

Small Group Questions: The Dawning of a New Day

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Read: Matthew 27:57-61 and Matthew 28:1

Reflect

Pastor Greg opened the message asking two questions: “Have you ever had a bad day?” and “Have you ever had a bad day that you have struggled to move past?”. What came to mind as you answered these questions? While these questions apply to all of us, our individual stories are unique and complex. We all need hope in light of the “bad days” we face.

“What you do with a bad day, is far more important than the actual bad day.” - Pastor Greg Surratt

1. GETTING THROUGH A BAD DAY

- a. Stop blaming and start forgiving

Read: Luke 22:33-34

What do we learn from some of Jesus’ last words on the cross, on earth?

Discuss the importance of forgiveness of others as well as yourself. How does this enable you to walk by faith towards a new day?

- b. Let go before you are ready to

Read: Matthew 28:1, Mark 16:3, Matthew 28:2

The women who went to the tomb, were experiencing deep grief and trauma, yet they went forward in faith despite the circumstances they faced. They faced the major physical obstacle of moving the stone that covered the entrance to the tomb. We may not be facing a physical stone to move out of the way, but what can we learn from these women as they went forward in faith?

- C. Focus on making today the best day of your life

Read: Matthew 28:5-6, 1 Peter 1:3

Jesus suffered and died a horrible death, he was crucified so that we may have new life in him filled with joy and peace, overflowing with power by the Holy Spirit. Take time to reflect on this and discuss what this “overflowing with power” might look like in our everyday lives.

Respond

The crucifixion of Jesus was truly the darkest day in history. Those who knew and loved Jesus were shocked and faced with such deep grief. They didn’t see the resurrection coming, they only saw death and the end. Imagine the overwhelming joy they must have felt and experienced when they went and saw that empty tomb and heard the Angel declare that “He isn’t here! He is risen from the dead...”. We by faith, look back to the cross and see Jesus crucified on our behalf, risen from the dead so that we can have new life and walk in the abundance of his resurrection.