

Small Group Discussion Questions

Series: Easter

Speaker: Jay Haugh

Message: Why the Resurrection Matters

Date: 04/05/2026

Memory Verse: 2 Corinthians 5:21 ESV

“For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.”

The goal of these questions is to foster meaningful discussion and to encourage participants to reflect on God's Word and lead to heart transformation. Feel free to modify or expand upon these questions based on the dynamics and needs of your Small Group.

Big Idea: Jesus' death on the cross cancels all debts, and His resurrection gives us life and perfection.

1. As a believer, what meaning does Easter have for you this week? What was your heart posture leading up to Easter? How about afterward? Why do you think it's easy for the Easter story to become familiar instead of transformational? What helps you keep the gospel from becoming something you just know to something you actively live?

Read 2 Corinthians 5:21

2. The opening phrase "For our sake" shares that God wasn't forced into this. He did this because He loves us. Do you believe that God loves you deeply—not just in general, but personally? Why or why not? What makes it difficult at times to believe that God truly loves you? When you struggle to believe God loves you, where do you typically turn for reassurance?
3. Paul isn't saying Jesus became a sinner (He "knew no sin"), but that He became the *sacrificial offering* for sin. Jesus bears the weight for all human brokenness. Which specific "weight" or past regret do you find hardest to believe has been transferred to Christ? How would your internal monologue



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change if you truly believed that weight was no longer yours to carry? What is keeping it tied so tightly to you?

4. The holiness of God is emphasized when Paul shares that Jesus "knew no sin." Living a sinless life is not something humanity can do. How would you describe the problem of sin to an unbeliever? Why does it affect everyone? Why is Jesus' sinlessness essential to the gospel? How does God's holiness differ from how people typically think about being a "good person?"
5. To "become the righteousness of God" means our lives start to reflect God's own character, justice, and mercy in the world. As you go about each day, are you focused on avoiding sin or actively embodying the beauty and character of God in your neighborhoods and workplaces?
6. Paul uses the phrase "in Him" (or "in Christ"). Our new status isn't something we possess independently; it is found through our union with Jesus. What are some common things people build their identity on (work, success, relationships, reputation)? Which of those are you most tempted to rely on for your sense of worth or identity? Have you experienced a time when something you leaned on for identity was shaken? What did that reveal?
7. Paul is describing a "great exchange." Jesus, the only perfect person, takes on the legal status of a sinner, while we receive His status. It's an asymmetrical trade that defies human logic. What can make it difficult to accept something so costly being given to us freely? Share about a moment when this truth personally resonated with you. How could you explain the "great exchange" in a simple, relatable way to someone exploring faith?



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