

# ROAD TO THE RESURRECTION



An Easter Series beginning March 22<sup>nd</sup>

# ROAD TO THE RESURRECTION

## Easter Season

Intentional about things that matter

Planning and Preparing important

Traditions can lose meaning

Challenge to be intentional with Easter



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## 1. Biblical Model

### a) Markers and Monuments

Deuteronomy 6:7-9 “<sup>7</sup> You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. <sup>8</sup> You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. <sup>9</sup> You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.”



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Joshua 4:6-7 “<sup>6</sup> that this may be a sign among you. When your children ask in time to come, ‘What do those stones mean to you?’ <sup>7</sup> then you shall tell them that the waters of the Jordan were cut off before the ark of the covenant of the Lord. When it passed over the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan were cut off. So these stones shall be to the people of Israel a memorial forever.”

- surround ourselves with reminders, markers and monuments – God did this!



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## b) Celebrations and Ceremonies

- feasts and celebrations for God's people

- Passover celebration

- John 12:12 “<sup>12</sup> The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem.”

- Jesus and communion



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1 Cor. 13:23-26 “For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread,<sup>24</sup> and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, “This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”<sup>25</sup> In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”<sup>26</sup> For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.”



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## c) drift a human reality

- Deut. 6:10-12 “<sup>10</sup>And when the Lord your God brings you into the land that he swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give you—with great and good cities that you did not build, <sup>11</sup> and houses full of all good things that you did not fill, and cisterns that you did not dig, and vineyards and olive trees that you did not plant—and when you eat and are full, <sup>12</sup> then take care lest you forget the Lord, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.”



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- Deut. 6:20-26 “When your son asks you in time to come, ‘What is the meaning of the testimonies and the statutes and the rules that the Lord our God has commanded you?’<sup>21</sup> then you shall say to your son, ‘We were Pharaoh's slaves in Egypt. And the Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand.<sup>22</sup> And the Lord showed signs and wonders, great and grievous, against Egypt and against Pharaoh and all his household, before our eyes.<sup>23</sup> And he brought us out from there, that he might bring us in and give us the land that he swore to give to our fathers.’”





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## 2. Remembering What God Has Done

### a) Our Reality – separated by sin

- Eph. 2:1 “And you were dead in the trespasses and sins.”

- Rom. 3:23 “For there is no distinction: <sup>23</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God”

- Rom. 5:12 “Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned”



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## b) God's Action on Our Behalf

- Eph. 2:5-10 “<sup>4</sup> But God, being rich in mercy,<sup>5</sup> because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—<sup>6</sup> and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,<sup>7</sup> so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.<sup>8</sup> For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God,<sup>9</sup> not a result of works, so that no one may boast.<sup>10</sup> For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.”



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- Rom 5:6-10 “<sup>6</sup> For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup> For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die—<sup>8</sup> but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. <sup>9</sup> Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. <sup>10</sup> For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.”



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## c) The result

- Rom. 10:9-13 “because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup> For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.”

- 1 Peter 2:24-25 “<sup>24</sup> He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.”



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- Remember our themes from Ephesians
  - chosen, adopted, redeemed, given and inheritance, sealed with Holy Spirit
  - were dead in sin – made alive in Christ
  - were captives, enslaved – set free
  - were condemned – now recipients of his kindness for eternity
- Easter – recalling what God did on our behalf, renewing our participation in his grace towards us, proclaiming our worship to him and testimony to the world.



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## 3. Challenge for Us

### a) Intentional in our actions

- establish rhythm
- create space to listen and respond
- choose to celebrate with clarity

### b) Prayer

- Holy Spirit leads and guides, renews
- for others who yet don't know
- space to tell your God story



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## c) Passing on ....

- legacy and traditions that go beyond you
- discipleship happens in home
- create patterns for Christ to be central in your families celebration



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## So What

### 1. Scripture Clear

- prone to wander as humans
- called to mark & celebrate what God has done

### 2. High Point in History

- Christ & Cross is central
- culture still provides natural recognition

### 3. Begin the Conversation

- prepare

