



GROUPS AT CROSS POINT

BREAKING THE ICE

Have you carried any Easter traditions from childhood into your adult life?

Are you an Easter breakfast, brunch, lunch or dinner type?



MAIN CONTENT

This past Easter weekend, Pastor Kevin started a new series called, “Defining Moments.” We all have defining moments in our lives, some are good and some we may want to forget.

1. What are some of the defining moments you have had in your life? Explain how those moments have changed the trajectory of your life.
2. Are there defining moments in someone else’s life that have affected your life?

Jesus’ life was a defining moment for all of us. He only lived 33 years, but the last three of those years, more significantly, the last three days, forever impacted the world. In the last weekend of His life, He died on the cross and took all of our guilt, shame and sins with Him. He was put through a trial, beaten and abused for us. He did nothing wrong to deserve this but He chose it because of his love for us.

3. Has anyone ever taken the blame for something you did? If so, how did that make you feel? Did you ever feel the need to repay them?





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Jesus took all of our junk for free. He didn't say, "I'll take your sin IF you do..." He took it all upon himself so we could choose Him, follow Him and live with Him forever.

4. Do you feel the need to perform for Jesus in order to earn your relationship with Him? Explain.

The good news is, Jesus doesn't ask you to earn His love. It's free for all and His love endures forever. No matter what mistakes you have made, whatever bad choices you've made, He still loves you. He will always love you and never forsake you.

5. Explain moments when you have felt Jesus' unconditional love for you. Do you feel that love all the time?

When Jesus was crucified on the cross that Friday, the disciples were in a moment of despair. Jesus had talked to them about being resurrected, but the Saturday after His death, the disciples weren't thinking about that. They were concerned because their friend and savior, was gone. They were discouraged and were left trying to figure out what life would look like now that Jesus was gone. That Saturday was a dark and desperate day.

6. Are there times where you feel desperate? That Jesus is far away like how the disciples felt on the Saturday after Jesus died? What do you do in those times of desperation and of not feeling Jesus as close?

Read Luke 24.

Sunday came and Jesus was resurrected. That moment changed everything. The situation went from death to life. The disciples went from desperate to hopeful. The Sunday Jesus was resurrected was a defining moment to bring everyone hope, joy, grace, forgiveness and life. It was a new beginning.



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That Sunday, Jesus redefined the past and the future. He redeemed it all and if you choose to let Him, He can redeem your worst moments too.

7. What specific example do you have of God redeeming something in your life? Share with the group the hope that was brought to your situation by His redemption.
8. Is there something in your life right now that you feel like God needs to redeem to bring you joy and hope for your life?

Jesus' life and death was a defining moment for all of us. We can choose to have a defining moment with Him. It just takes us believing in Him and choosing to follow Him.

9. Have you chosen to follow Jesus and create a defining moment in your life? Why or why not?





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PRAYER

God, thank you for the most defining moment in all of history; when your Son died on the cross for our sins so we can spend eternity with you. Help us live with you at the center of our lives. Help us trust you and follow you. In Jesus name, Amen.

ACTION STEP

This week, think about the defining moments of your life. Thank God for the ways He has redefined you as a follower of Him. Reflect on those by following this exercise:

1. Identify one moment that has had a positive effect on you. This could be big or small, just something that had a meaningful impact on you.
2. List any character strengths that grew in that situation. How did you express them?
3. How has this shaped your identity? Explore how this moment shaped who you are now.

Take time to pray for your group and group members and the defining moments you've had in your life. Come back next week to share with your group what God is showing you about trusting Him.

