



John 20

EASTER WEEKEND - Apr 4/5, 2026

Message Recap

Everyone knows what it feels like when something ends...relationships, dreams, seasons, or expectations. But endings have a voice, and they often tell us it's final, that hope is gone, and nothing good is ahead. Easter reminds us that what looks over to us is not over to Jesus. In John 20, we see four powerful truths: Jesus is still working even when it feels dark, He meets us in our emptiest moments, nothing can keep Him out of our lives, and we don't need perfect faith to come to Him. The resurrection isn't just something to believe, it's an invitation to surrender.

Icebreaker / Personal Reflection

- **Icebreaker:**

What Easter traditions are most meaningful to you and your family?

- **Reflection:**

What part of the message resonated with you the most?

Discussion Questions

- **Where in your life does something currently feel “over”—and how does this message challenge the way you’ve been viewing that situation?**
- **Jesus asked Mary, “Why are you crying? Who are you looking for?” What do you tend to look to for peace or relief when life feels heavy—and why do you think that is?**
- **“Whatever has you locked up can’t keep Jesus locked out.” What’s one “locked door” in your life right now (fear, control, past hurt, doubt, etc.), and what would it look like to let Jesus into that space?**
- **Jesus’ first word to fearful people was “Peace.” How is the peace Jesus offers different from the ways we typically try to create peace for ourselves?**
- **Thomas struggled with doubt but was still pursued by Jesus. How does that challenge the way you view doubt in your faith journey?**

For Additional Study

2 Corinthians 4:8–9

- Paul talks about being “hard pressed... but not crushed.” How does this passage reinforce the idea that what feels like the end isn’t truly the end?
- Which phrase in this passage stands out to you most, and why?

Luke 24:36–39

- Jesus appears to His disciples and again brings peace in the middle of fear. What similarities do you see between this and John 20?
- Why do you think Jesus consistently meets people in moments of fear and uncertainty rather than after they’ve figured everything out?