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## INTRODUCTION

## Breakthrough—Easter

On the night Jesus was betrayed, his disciples fled in fear. Their hero had been arrested, and would soon be crucified and buried—they were hopeless and discouraged. Then, everything changed.

Jesus rose from the dead. The disciples became courageous. Hopelessness turned to joy. This was the breakthrough for everyone. The Apostle Paul wrote that the very power that raised Jesus from the dead is at work within our lives as Christians. Through the power of the resurrection, we can experience breakthroughs in our own lives.

This Easter, we will explore how the resurrection changes everything.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Have you ever had an area of your life where you tried to change, but couldn't? What do you think was hindering you?
2. How would you define a breakthrough? Can you think of any examples where you experienced a breakthrough in your life? What happened?
3. Read 1 Corinthians 15:1-4. How would you explain the gospel message? Why is the gospel message more important than any other? Why do you think the gospel is called, "good news"?
4. Read 1 Corinthians 15:12-19. Why was it important that Jesus rise again from the dead?
5. How might you prove to someone that Jesus actually rose from the dead?
6. Read Ephesians 1:17-21. Why do you think Paul prays we would realize that the power that raised Jesus from the dead is at work within us? In what ways might that power help us live out our faith as Christians?
7. Read 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18. How does Jesus's resurrection provide hope for us? Why should Christians not grieve in the same way others grieve who don't know Christ? Do you think these verses are suggesting that it is wrong to grieve over death? Explain your answer.
8. The resurrection offers a pardon for the past, power for the present and a promise for the future. How has Jesus' resurrection provided these things for you?
9. How might you apply this lesson to your life?

## KEY VERSES

1 Corinthians 15:1-27 (HCSB)  
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 (HCSB)  
Ephesians 1:17-21 (NLT)  
Acts 3:15 (HCSB)

Romans 10:9 (HCSB)  
John 6:40 (HCSB)  
John 16:7-8 (NLT)