

All Things New | Easter Sunday

Discussion for week of April 4, 2021



Begin with Prayer

Beginning with silence, invite the Holy Spirit to guide your time. Consider Mary's prayer: **"I am the Lord's servant. May your word to me be fulfilled"** (Luke 1:38).

Reconnecting and Debriefing

Take a few minutes to briefly check in with one another. Suggestions:

- *What is something you have wished you could fix, but didn't have the skill to do it?*

Listening to God's Word

Andrew Peterson's iconic song expresses the longing we sense in the Easter season: "Do you feel the world is broken? ... Do you feel the shadows deepen? ... Do you know that all the dark can't stop the light from getting through? ... Do you wish that you could see it all made new?" And we answer, "We do." The brokenness of the world is something that humankind has been trying to fix since the beginning, but hasn't had the ability to do it. But the Easter event is God's message that brokenness is not the last word – that there is hope. As we celebrate this season together, let's reflect on God's promise to make all things new.

Small Group Discussion

Read 1 Peter 1:3-5, Revelation 21:1-5, and 2 Corinthians 5:17. Then discuss together:

- **What is your first thought when you read through these passages?**
- *What are some ways that you've sensed or experienced the brokenness of the world in the past year?*
- 1 Peter, Revelation were written to suffering churches, and 2 Corinthians is written out of one of Paul's deepest experiences of pain and emotional turmoil. *How does this help you hear the message of each of these passages?*
- Peter speaks of being "reborn," and Paul and John write of a "kainos" – totally renovated – creation. How do the images of birth and renovation help you understand the life- and world-changing impact of the resurrection of Jesus, especially for yourself?
- What other aspects of hope do you read in these passages? Where do you most need to hear these reminders today?
- Spend some time naming, and then praying for, situations that need "new birth" and "total renovation" in your lives and in our world. Ask God to direct you in being agents of God's new work.
- **Is there anything you sense God calling you to do, personally or as a group?**