

easter

AT THE CREEK

1. [Group]

...Then **all** the disciples deserted him and fled.

Matthew 26:56 NIV

2. [Group]

Easter is best understood and becomes most meaningful when we find our own story inside the Easter story.

3.

Easter...Strikingly Human:

- *Unwanted Circumstance*
- *Unanswered Prayers*
- *Unhealthy Fear*
- *Guilt and Shame*
- *Prejudice & Bigotry*
- *Unbelief*
- *Betrayal*
- *Premature Death*
- *Doubt*
- *Pride & Insecurity*
- *Anxiety & Stress*
- *Corruption*

4.

Easter...The Characters:

- Lazarus
- Caiaphas & The Religious Establishment
- The People
- Jesus' Brothers
- Mary
- Judas
- Simon Peter
- Pilate
- John
- Joseph & Nicodemus

5.

Then something happened...

6.

When they came back from the tomb, they told all these things to the **Eleven** and to all **the others**.

Luke 24:9 NIV

7.

But they did not **believe** the women, because their words seemed to them like **nonsense**.

Luke 24:11 NIV

8.

So Peter and the **other disciple** started for the tomb. Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first.

John 20:3-4 NIV

9.

He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. Then Simon Peter came along behind him & went straight into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there,

John 20:5-6 NIV

10.

as well as the cloth that had been wrapped around Jesus' head. The cloth was still lying in its place, separate from the linen.

John 20:7 NIV

11.

Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. **He saw and believed.**

John 20:8 NIV

12.

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "**Peace** be with you!"

John 20:19 NIV

13.

After he said this, he **showed** them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

John 20:20 NIV

14.

Again Jesus said, "**Peace** be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the **Holy Spirit.**"

John 20:21-22 NIV

15.

Easter...The Characters:

- Jesus' Brothers
- The People
- Simon Peter
- Joseph & Nicodemus
- Saul of Tarsus
- John

16.

Jesus' life had
changed John's life.

17.

Belief → Life

18.

But these are written that you
may **believe** that Jesus is the
Messiah, the Son of God, and
that by **believing** you may
have **life** in his name.

John 20:31 NIV

19.

For God so **loved** the world
that he gave his one and only
Son, that whoever **believes** in
him shall not perish but have
eternal life.

John 3:16 NIV

20. [Group]

The thief comes only to steal
and kill and destroy; I have
come that they may have **life**,
and have **it** to the **full**.

John 10:10 NIV

21.

Jesus was raised not only
to give us eternal **life** but
Jesus was also raised to
give us a **better life**.

22. [Group]

Jesus' life can
change your life.

23.

Do you believe that Christ died,
was buried, and was raised
from the dead?

24.