

Discussion Guide Easter Sunday (week of 4 April 2021)

Big Idea: With the resurrection of Jesus, a new day has dawned and we each have a part to play

1. Do you have a memory of the time Jesus first called you by name? Share with the group.
2. Discuss the significance of the connections between Genesis 1–2, John 1:1-5, and John 20. Zero in especially on John 20:19-23. What is John saying in telling his story in this way? What is he trying to get us to see or do?
3. Discuss the difficulty in the 1st century with calling Jesus “My Lord and my God” (20:28) as Thomas did, and then discuss the difficulties involved in calling Jesus the same today (and REALLY believing it such that you actually act like it’s true).
4. As little idols/images of Jesus (from 20:22), what does it look like to be “sent ones” by Jesus and the Father? Describe the nature of our (and thus also your) calling.
5. *Shalom* (peace) from Jesus gets brought up A LOT in this passage, and it’s not by accident. What does the *shalom* of Jesus look and feel like, and why do you think it feels so elusive to many of us much of the time? What would it look like to bring it to others?
6. Sum all of this discussion up by describing what “life by the power of his [Jesus’] name” (20:31) should look and feel like.