



## Sermon Discussion Guide

April 19 & 20, 2025

"What Difference Does an Empty Tomb Make?"

[Luke 24:1-5](#)

"The Jesus Who's More Than We Think" is a six-week sermon series exploring the true identity of Jesus beyond cultural assumptions and watered-down beliefs. This series invites you to rediscover Jesus in his fullness and experience the transformation that comes from knowing him as he truly is.

### PRAY & CONNECT

Open in prayer and invite the Holy Spirit into your conversation. Ask God for wisdom and discernment and trust him to guide you. Take time to recap the message or view it on [hopeonline.tv](http://hopeonline.tv). Did you have any ah-ha moments where you felt convicted, compelled, or inspired during the sermon? What's been on your mind this week? Have you been able to apply the message to your everyday life?

### GROW

#### Read [John 10:10](#) – "The Good Shepherd and His Sheep"

- What thoughts or emotions rise up when you hear Jesus say he came to give a "rich and satisfying life"?
- How does Jesus' promise of "life to the full" connect to the resurrection, as emphasized in the sermon?
- Why do you think Jesus ties fullness of life to a relationship with him rather than achievements, wealth, or control?
- If Jesus gives abundant life, how might that shape how you approach people who feel overlooked or spiritually empty? What does this verse challenge in our culture's definition of the "good life"?

#### Read [Romans 8:11](#) – "Life in the Spirit"

- What feelings come up when you hear the same Spirit that raised Jesus lives in you? How might this change how you view yourself?
- Why do you think Paul emphasizes the Spirit's power to bring life to our mortal bodies? How does this verse connect to the resurrection message of Easter?
- When have you tried to live life on your own and felt worn out? How does knowing the Spirit is in you offer comfort or challenge?
- How can believing this verse empower you to bring life into dark or hopeless places?

#### Read [John 3:16](#) – "Jesus and Nicodemus"

- What emotions do you feel when you hear "God so loved the world" includes you personally?
- Why is belief a central part of this verse's promise? How does the resurrection confirm the truth of God's love and gift of eternal life?
- When have you doubted whether you're truly loved or forgiven? How might this verse offer a different perspective?
- How does knowing God loves everyone challenge how you treat others? What would it look like to share this verse's hope with someone who feels unworthy? Who in your life needs to hear they're loved by God, and how can you start that conversation?

#### Read [Luke 24:1-7](#) – "The Resurrection"

- What emotions rise in you when you imagine the women discovering the empty tomb? Why do you think the angels asked, "Why do you look for the living among the dead?"
- Why is the resurrection central to the Christian faith and not just a bonus detail?
- When have you treated your faith more like a memory than a living relationship?
- How can the angel's message in this passage shape how you share your faith?

### APPLY

Pick one of the applications below to put into practice this week ...

- Reflect daily on one verse from the Easter story and write a sentence about how it gives you hope. Let the truth of Jesus' resurrection fill your heart—not just your head.
- Identify one area of your life where you feel spiritually empty or weighed down by guilt or fear. Then, in prayer, intentionally lay that burden at the foot of the cross and ask the risen Jesus to fill you with his Spirit and freedom.
- Choose one person in your life who feels far from faith or is grieving deeply. Reach out this week with a simple, heartfelt message of encouragement—sharing the hope of the resurrection not as an argument but as a lived reality in your own life.