

1. Connect

Question of the Day. Highs and Lows. Share how last week's message influenced your week.

As we enter into Holy Week, take this time to reflect on the Resurrection series we've been in as a community. Which aspects of the "resurrection" stories we've learned about has stood out to you the most these past two weeks?

2. Engage: Sermon Review + Discussion

Read 1 Kings 17:17-24 together as a LifeGroup.

- As you read this passage of Scripture, what words, images, or sentences stand out to you? Spend several minutes making your own observations about the passage, then share those observations together as a group.

We are in the third week of our four-week Resurrection series leading up to Easter. In today's passage, we lean into Elijah's request to God: "Lord, my God, let this boy's life return to him!" (1 Kings 17:21).

- God is a God who gives and takes away. We are much more comfortable with celebrating the "highs" of our faith, but what do you do in the "lows"? What have you done in previous seasons (or this season) where God has taken something away?
- The two main characters in this story struggle with their crisis:
 - The widow asks Elijah if her sin is what prompted the death of her son. Have you had moments when you felt your sin kept God from extending his grace to you?
 - Like Elijah, have you had moments where in your frustration and anger you've cried out to God and heard nothing back? How have you held back from expressing your pain or anger to God?
- Pastor Albert encouraged us to do the following when we experience a season where God "takes away" and we find ourselves in crisis:

- Remember who God is. In the midst of accusation and anger, Elijah still continues to claim who God is. What is one thing you know to be true about God, that you can lean on in crisis? How can you practically remember who God is during seasons of pain and confusion?
- Remember this isn't the time to run away. In our questioning and loneliness, God makes accommodations for our doubts and questions. In your anger or hurt, have you been running from God? If you have, how can you begin to slow down and turn your attention towards God? Are there places where you've been sincerely questioning God, but with the wrong people?
- Are there places where God might be pressing into you, to get glory out of your life? Can you begin to press back into God? What does that look like for you today?
- Remember to pray big prayers. Are there any prayers that you're currently praying that are big? What can you ask God for today that is big and audacious?
- Remember he's a good Father. Don't let the reality of death create fear. Jesus Christ has taken the sting out of death and God holds us as a loving Father in the midst of our pain or suffering. How can this reality shape and guide your discipleship?

3. Apply: Next Faithful Step

- As we enter into Holy Week, what are the things in your life, your family and community, that desperately need the resurrection power of Christ to come near? As Pastor Albert encouraged us in the sermon, instead of running away from God, we can run to him, rest in him, and rely on him.
- If you haven't yet followed along, make sure to download our Fellowship Easter Devotional, where we journey with Jesus to the cross and the resurrection. The devotional is written by our pastoral staff, and each day we lean into the words and sayings of Jesus in the Gospels. You can find the devotional on our Fellowship App or sign up for daily emails through our website: <https://madeforfellowship.com/easter-devotional/>.