

The message of Easter:

- God really loves you!
- Jesus opens <u>doors</u> that we <u>can't</u> open.

I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved ... I came that they may have life and have it abundantly. John 10:9-10 (ESV)

He waits for us to open the door to our life.

20 "Look! I have been standing at the door, and I am constantly knocking. If anyone hears me calling him and opens the door, I will come in and fellowship with him and he with me. Revelation 3:20 (TLB)

God says:

I know all about you, and I still want you.

1 O LORD, you have examined my heart and know everything about me.

 $2\;$ You know when I sit down or stand up. You know my thoughts even when I'm far away.

- 3 You see me when I travel and when I rest at home. You know everything I do.
- 4 You know what I am going to say even before I say it, LORD.

5 You go before me and follow me. You place your hand of blessing on my head.

6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too great for me to understand! Psalm 139:1-6 (NLT)

9 ... you have been chosen by God himself... 1 Peter 2:9 (TLB)

I know your insecurities and I'm here for you.

 $9\,$...You've always been right there for me; don't turn your back on me now. ...you've always kept the door open.

10 My father and mother walked out and left me, but GOD took me in. Psalm 27:9-10 (MSG)

I know your <u>fears</u> and I'm committed to <u>help</u>.

 $17\,$ God didn't go to all the trouble of sending his Son merely to point an accusing finger, telling the world how bad it was. He came to help, to put the world right again. John 3:17 (MSG)

Jesus' love will open:

The door to <u>relationship</u> with God.

I am the door. If anyone enters by me, <u>he will be saved</u> ... I came that they may have life and have it abundantly. John 10:9-10 (ESV)

The door to a <u>love</u> that defines us.

18 may you be able to feel and understand, as all God's children should, how long, how wide, how deep, and how high his love really is;

19 and to experience this love for yourselves, though it is so great that you will never see the end of it or fully know or understand it. And so at last you will be filled up with God himself. Ephesians 3:18-19 (TLB)

The door to <u>healing</u> your past.

17 This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun! 2 Corinthians 5:17 (NLT)

12 And I will forgive their wickedness, and I will never again remember their sins." Hebrews 8:12 (NLT)

12 He has removed our sins as far from us as the east is from the west. Psalm 103:12 (NLT)

The door to <u>hope</u> for your <u>future</u>.

11 I know what I'm doing. I have it all planned out—plans to take care of you, not abandon you, plans to give you the future you hope for.

12 "When you call on me, when you come and pray to me, I'll listen.

13 "When you come looking for me, you'll find me. "Yes, when you get serious about finding me and want it more than anything else,

14 I'll make sure you won't be disappointed." ... Jeremiah 29:11-14 (MSG)

16 And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love... 1 John 4:16 (NIV)

The door to a life with God.

38 For I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from his love. Death can't, and life can't. The angels won't, and all the powers of hell itself cannot keep God's love away. Our fears for today, our worries about tomorrow,

39 or where we are—high above the sky, or in the deepest ocean—nothing will ever be able to separate us from the love of God demonstrated by our Lord Jesus Christ when he died for us. Romans 8:38-39 (TLB)

Have Questions? Text them to: (559)-464-5754

Questions that can be used in Connection Groups: These questions also work well for personal time with God.

- · What spoke most to you from the talk on Sunday?
- · What are some Easter traditions you have and why are they important to you?
- What does it mean to you that God loves you unconditionally? What does it mean to be loved unconditionally?
- When everyone turns their back on you, God remains with you. How does that fact change your life?
- How does it make you feel to know God is committed to help you? In what areas do you rely on God's help?
- Talk through the points under "Jesus' love will open:". (How does Jesus' love make these things available to us?, How does it change our lives?)
- Read Ephesians 3:18-19; what is Paul wanting us to understand. or grasp, about God's love?

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