

The best days ever are days:

- When God blesses us with something that alters us.
- When God blesses us with something that amazes us.

Why we just live average days:

- Average days happen when we predetermine the <u>iov</u> of the day before we have even lived it.
- We tend to predetermine our day based on what we don't want to **experience**.
- We tend to predetermine the joy of our day based on what is out of our **control**. It is by his great mercy that we have been born again, because God raised Jesus Christ from the dead. Now we live with great expectation... 1 Peter 1:3 (NLT)

If we have no joy because of Jesus, somewhere there's a leak in our faith in Jesus.

That Sunday evening the disciples were meeting behind locked doors because they were afraid... John 20:19 (NLT)

You might need a new perspective if:

- You struggle to find <u>meaning</u> in life.
 10 ... I came to give life—life in all its fullness. John 10:10 (NCV)
- You have an absence of joy.

The absence of joy can indicate that we're focused on the **grief** around us and not the **God** within us.

• Your outlook is cynical.

Worry imagines a scenario without God's activity.

Today is just another <u>Sunday</u>.

For the disciples:

Friday = Day of Pain.

Saturday = Day of **Uncertainty.**

Sunday = Day of <u>Hope</u> and <u>New Life</u>.

But very early on Sunday morning the women went to the tomb, taking the spices they had prepared. They found that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance. So they went in, but they didn't find the body of the Lord Jesus. As they stood there puzzled, two men suddenly appeared to them, clothed in dazzling robes. The women were terrified and bowed with their faces to the ground. Then the men asked, "Why are you looking among the dead for someone who is alive? He isn't here! He is risen from the dead! Luke 24:1-6 (NLT)

A new focus for a new perspective:

• Jesus on the cross demonstrates that you are loved.

"God showed His great love for us by sending Christ to die for us." Romans 5:8 (NLT)

• The empty tomb proves that God is greater than what you're going through.

It stands to reason, doesn't it, that if the alive-and-present God who raised Jesus from the dead moves into your life, he'll do the same thing in you that he did in Jesus, bringing you alive to himself? When God lives and breathes in you (and he does, as surely as he did in Jesus), you are delivered from that dead life. With his Spirit living in you, your body will be as alive as Christ's! Romans 8:11 (MSG)

While the cross provides <u>forgiveness</u> for our sins, the resurrection provides <u>new life</u>.

We were buried with Him (Jesus) through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. Romans 6:4 (NIV)

How to experience the best day ever:

Choose a <u>relationship</u> with Jesus rather than a <u>holiday</u> about Jesus.

He included everyone in his death so that everyone could also be included in his life, a resurrection life, a far better life than people ever lived on their own. 2 Corinthians 5:15 (MSG)

• We exchange average days with **hope-filled** days.



TO CREATIVELY LOVE AND LEAD PEOPLE IN A GROWING RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS.

Questions for Connection Groups:

These questions also work well for personal time with God.

- What scripture and/or point spoke most to you from the Talk on Sunday? Explain why?
- Share about a day when God blessed you with something that changed you for the better.
- Share about a day that you were expecting average and God blessed you with something amazing.
- Do you live with great expectation for your days? (That God has something special planned)
- Have you ever predetermined the joy of your day before you even lived it? Why do we do that?
- Can you give an example of how we predetermine the joy of our day based on what is out of our control?
- Talk through the points under: "You might need a new perspective".
- If you were a disciple at Jesus' crucifixion, how would you have handled Friday and Saturday?
- Why do you think the disciples didn't look for a living Jesus on Sunday?
- How does the empty tomb prove that God is greater than what we are going through? How does that change your perspective on life?
- How can we choose a relationship with Jesus rather than a holiday about Jesus?
- How do we exchange average days with hope-filled days?

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