



EASTER SUNDAY

BE A MORNING
PERSON

***“Until you rest in the finality of the cross,
you will never experience the reality of the
resurrection”***

-James Bryan Smith

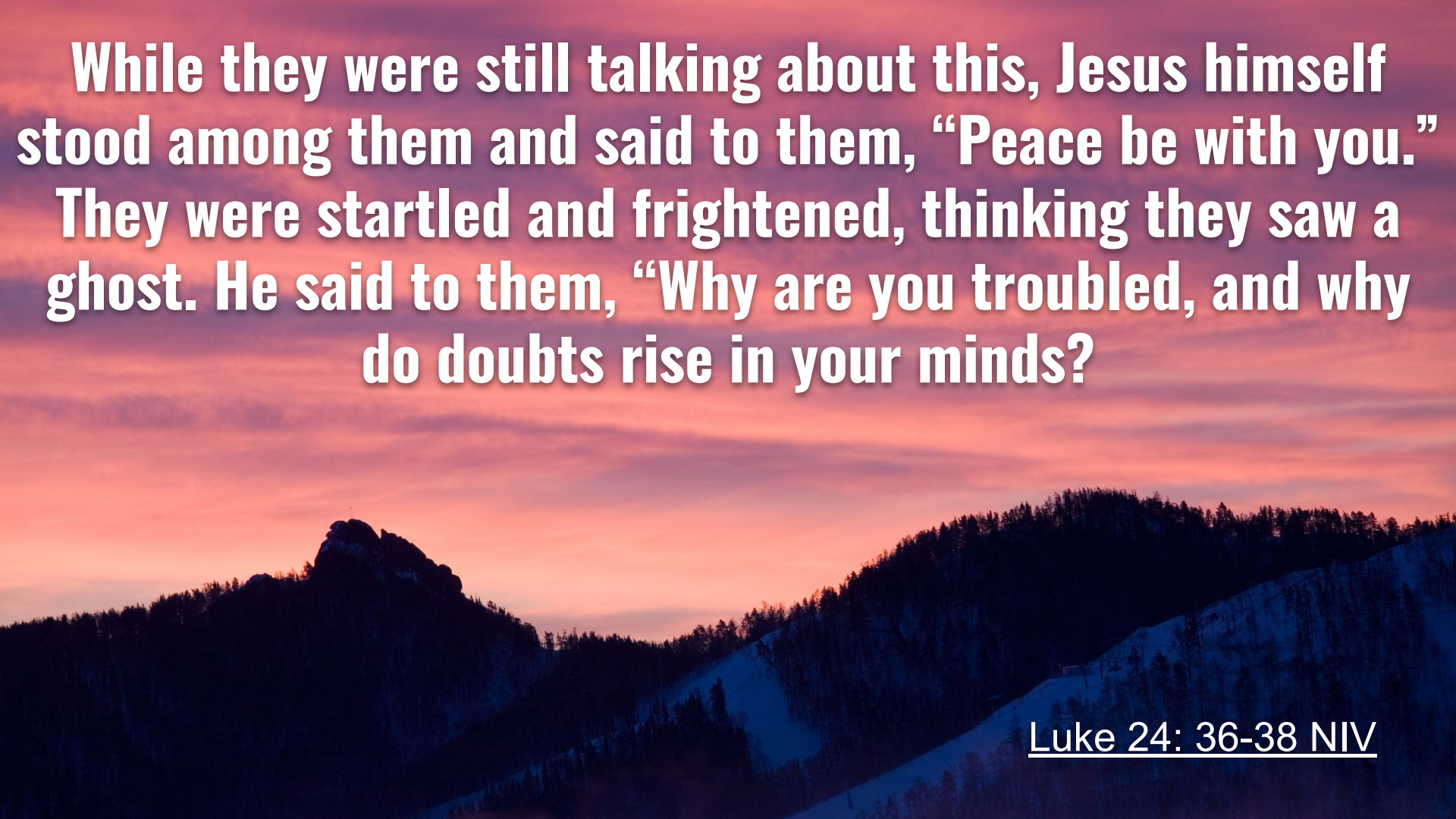


Punchline

*“Jesus didn’t just rise from the grave,
He rose in our hearts”*

-Jeremiah Wood



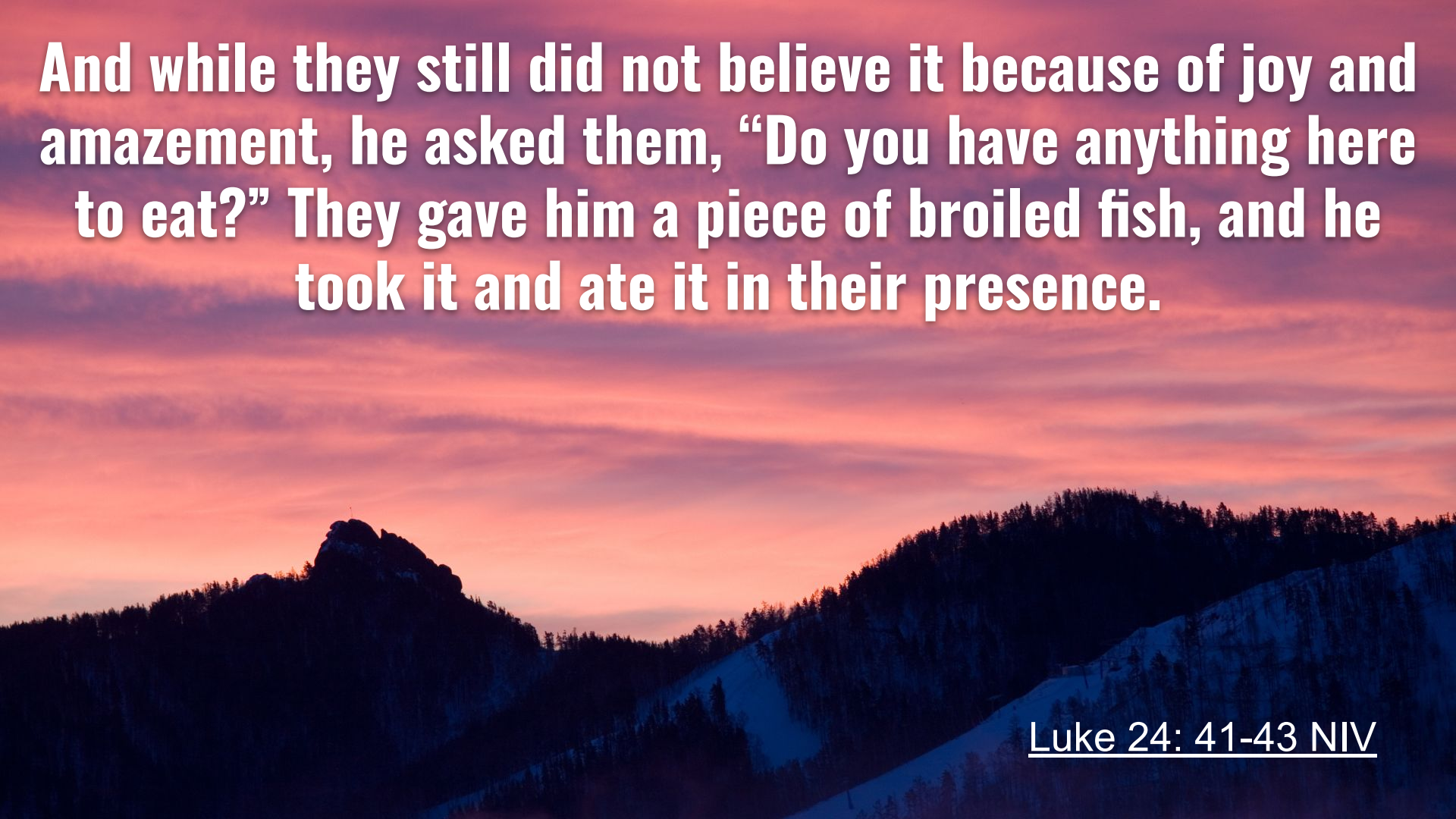


While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. He said to them, “Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds?”

Luke 24: 36-38 NIV

Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have.” When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet.

Luke 24: 39-40 NIV



And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, “Do you have anything here to eat?” They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate it in their presence.

Luke 24: 41-43 NIV

Jesus Is Present

- Jesus just shows up
- Shows His hands and feet
- His presence was there and we have His presence now
- Make that presence part of our morning routine

MORNING ROUTINE

HAVE AN INTENTION
OFFLINE RITUAL
HAVE FUN!




Make Jesus Part Of Your Morning Routine

- **Pray**
 - **Let your knees hit the floor before your feet**
- **Coffee with Jesus**
 - **Good quality time with Him**
- **Anything else**
 - **Put Jesus on your heart and mind**

Make Jesus Part Of Your Morning Routine


“So here’s to tomorrow morning, six o clock, coffee. The chair by the window, the window by the tree. Time to breathe. A psalm and story from the Gospels. Hearing the Father’s voice. Pouring out my own. Or just sitting, resting. Maybe I’ll hear a word from God that will alter my destiny, maybe I’ll just process my anger over something that’s bothering me. Maybe I’ll feel my mind settle like untouched water; maybe my mind will ricochet from thought to thought and never come to rest. If so, that’s fine. I’ll be back, same time tomorrow. Starting my day in the quiet place.”

-John Mark Comer
The Ruthless Elimination of Hurry



**God has ascended amid shouts of joy
The Lord amid the sounding of trumpets.
Sing praises to God, sing praises;
Sing praises to our King, sing praises.
For God is the King of all the earth;
Sing to him a psalm of praise.**

Psalm 47: 5-7 NIV



**God reigns over the nations;
God is seated on his holy throne.
The nobles of the nations assemble
As the people of the God of Abraham,
For the kings of the earth belong to God;
He is greatly exalted.**

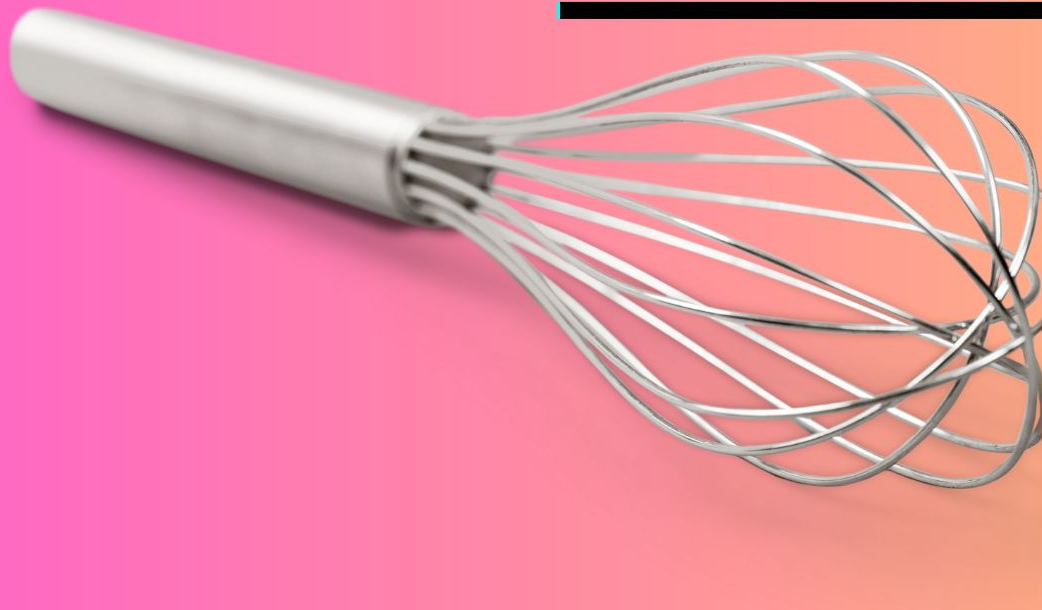
Psalm 47: 8-9 NIV

Energy

- **God is the King and He takes His throne**
- **The theme music is on repeat**
- **This a high energy event**



ENERGY



Our Energy Is Praise

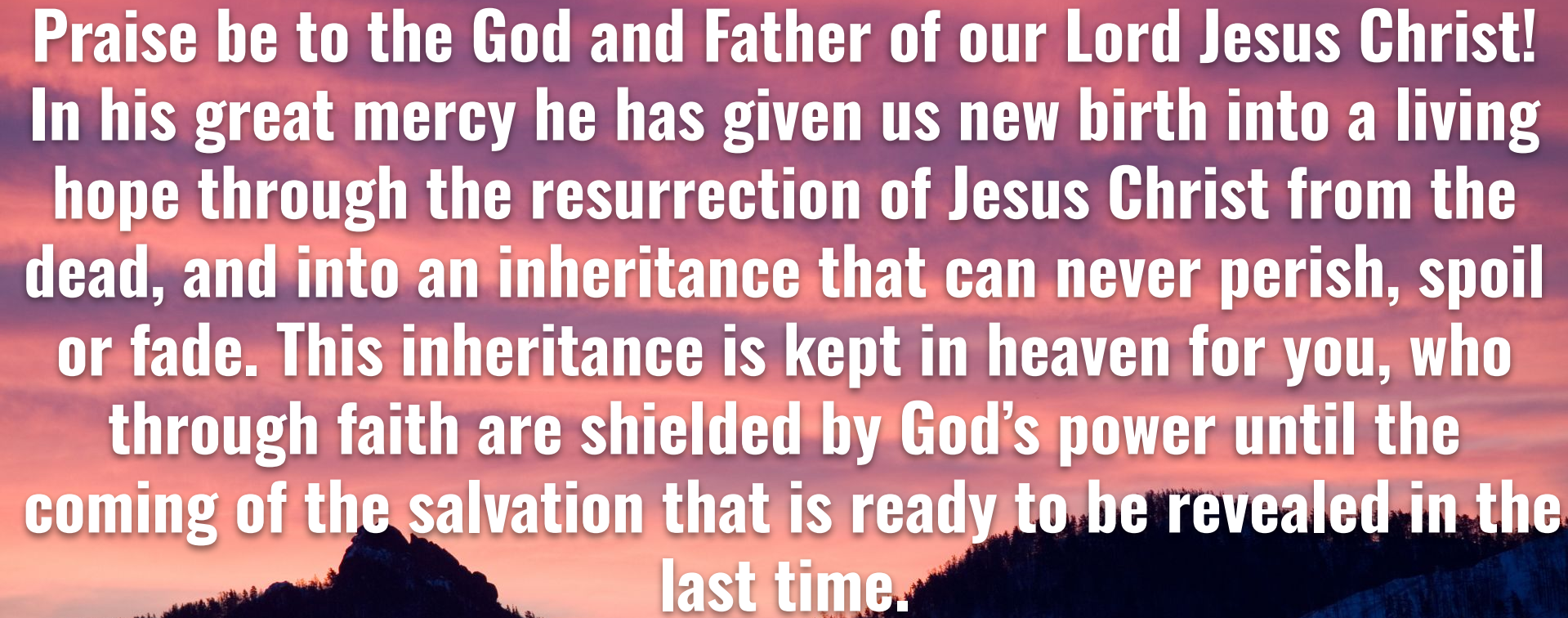
- Ideally you have renewed energy in the morning
- Praise God when things are great, praise God when things are good. Praise God when things are “meh”, praise God when nobody else would

Our Energy Is Praise

- Praise when things are great or good
 - That He's present, with you in the win, and you get to be part of what He won
- Praise in the "meh"
 - Praise Jesus for risin to get the blood flowing

Our Energy Is Praise

- **Praise when nobody else would**
 - **“Where is God in this?”**
 - **Right next to you, picking you up, giving you a shoulder to cry on, and still sitting on His throne**
- **The energy in the morning comes out in praise to God**



**Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!
In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living
hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the
dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil
or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you, who
through faith are shielded by God's power until the
coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the
last time.**

1 Peter 1: 3-5 NIV

Heavenly Inheritance

- We have living hope through the resurrection
- The hope is in our inheritance in heaven with Jesus
- It can't perish, spoil, or fade
- It's a heavenly inheritance and that's something we can focus on

THE END GOAL



+

Win
or
Lose

=



Focus On Heavenly Inheritance

- Being a morning person comes with focus
- We get to join Jesus in heaven, that's our final goal and focus
- We tend to focus on the temporary not the eternal



Focus On Heavenly Inheritance

- We always want more
- We suffer from “comparrogance”
- The earthly and material is stressful
- Inheritance usually comes because someone dies, our inheritance comes because Jesus lives

All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had. With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God's grace was so powerfully at work in them all that there were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned land or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales

Acts 4: 32-34 NIV

Share God, Serve God

- The church community has grown
- They shared what they had when someone was in need
- They shared the power of the resurrection
- They took every opportunity to live out the resurrection through sharing and serving

OPPORTUNITIES



Opportunities To Share God And Serve God

- We have new opportunities every morning
- “I can’t share Jesus, I’m not in ministry or qualified, I’m just at my normal job...”
- *“The problem with Western Christians isn’t that they aren’t where they should be, but that they aren’t WHAT they should be, WHERE, they are” - Os Guinness*

Opportunities To Share God And Serve God

- **Share Jesus**
 - **Jesus from the Gospels**
 - **Jesus from our lives today**
 - **Gives conviction, guidance, and peace**
 - **Share your experience with Him**

Opportunities To Share God And Serve God

- **Serve Jesus**
 - ***“Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve”*** (Matt 20: 28)
- **Variety of ways to serve**



Opportunities To Share God And Serve God

- **Serve others to serve others and not Jesus not to serve yourself**
- **God made each person and situation unique**
- **See and understand the needs of people**
- **Pray for them**
- **Jesus being alive gives us opportunities to share and serve Him everyday**

Wrap Up

- Let the reality of Easter be part of your morning reality
- There will be things that try to take you from the truth
- Hang on to the truth - you can handle it
- Accept that Jesus is risen
- He rose in the morning, He rose in our hearts, and that makes us morning people

Audio file

[Easter Audio.mp3](#)

Transcript

As my wife said, compared to me, she's not a morning person. I am very much a morning person. I get up early. I'm probably most productive in the morning. I like to do my work in the morning, be up, be my myself. I think it goes back to years I worked and ran a coffee shop for a long time, so I was starting work at 5:30 for a number of years in my life. So I love mornings, right. And today we get to talk about one of the most famous mornings. Ever. That is Easter morning. He's risen and we celebrate it this morning, but we need to remember what Easter morning really means for us. It's great. It's more than just the nice clothes and the fancy brunch. And the bunnies and the baskets and the egg hunts and all the good stuff. That's all great. I like all that. But what does it really mean for us if you're with us on Good Friday, I shared a quote that we talked about the first half of. I'm going to share that again. We're going hit the second-half of it here this morning. And this comes from author James Brian Smith from his book *The Good And Beautiful You*. He says until you rest and the finality of the cross, which is what we talked. Reddit, you will never experience the reality of the resurrection. So we talked about that part Friday, resting in the cross. It's on our website. If you want to catch up on that, but to accept the finality of the cross and rest in that today we're going to talk about the reality of their resurrection and experiencing. And I was sitting in our hallway. I think it was last Sunday was talking to my kids. Your mind, Joel about Easter, like, alright. What should I say? On Sunday? I was a little more prepared. Than. That. But I was like, hey, what should I say? And Jeremiah had a great line and it's going to be our punch line today and that is well, Dad, Jesus didn't just rise from the grave. He rolls in our hearts. He didn't just rise from the grave. He rolls in heart. I was like, Dang, do you want to? Preach, kid. Like you should do this instead of me. So we're gonna use that. We're gonna run with that because the reality of the resurrection is that Jesus rose from the grave. He defeated death, right. Total knockout style. TK out it. It's done because he defeated death. He lives in the world today. And in our hearts. And we live with him. We get to celebrate his resurrection on Easter morning. So guess what. All y'all gonna be mourning people. Yay. Looking at your faces, I'm gonna preach to an empty room next Sunday, and that's OK. That's fine. Hey, I got some. Somebody's coming back. We're gonna do this morning. We got four things that kind of can come with the morning and how it

relates to the reality of the resurrection that we celebrate Easter morning. All right, so we're going to start in Luke's Gospel chapter 24. We'll be in a variety of passages today. So Kyle's going to have it all up on the screen here behind me. If you want to follow along at all. Bibles are on your tables. But Kyle will have it all appear behind me, so we're going to start talking about Jesus's presence in Luke 24 verses 36 through 43 says this. This while they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, peace be with you. They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. He said to them, why are you troubled? Why do you doubt rise in your minds? Look at my hands and feet. It is I myself touch me and see a ghost does not have flesh and bones. As you see I have. When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet, and while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them give anything to eat. They gave him a piece of broiled fish and he took it and ate it in their presence. All right, so the disciples had just been told that Jesus was alive. So we're kind of post the traditional story we talked about where the stones gone and it's rolled away and he's not here. So we're we're a little bit past that. But think about the state of mind the disciples have to be. And it's crazy. They hear that he rose. They got me. This is wild. And Jesus just shows up. He just appears. He pulls the Jesus and just shows up in the room with them. The disciples are startled and frazzled and confused, and Jesus is like. Why you guys like startled and doubting? I feel like this is an obvious question coming from Jesus, right? They know. He said he'd rise, but it's still crazy to experience it. So he proves it. He shows them his hands and feet. Right. They think he could be a ghost. Well, no ghost, as far as I know, ghosts do not have bones in their hands and feet. Also, he shows them the hands and feet. The show where he was nailed to the cross, he shows the scars that he had. And then you guys know, I don't know why I find it funny, but he has to eat. Like, I don't know. He probably hadn't eaten yet. He's like, you have anything to eat. And he eats right in front of them. What he's doing is he's proving he's real, that he's there right there with him. His presence was there with them. And we have his presence now. So what I would say is a part of being our morning person. There's a morning routine. We should make Jesus part of our morning routine. I read a CNBC article about morning routines and they talked about the value of them and why they're so important. They help you be happier and more productive at work. They gave three things that you should do in a morning routine, they say set an intention for the day right away. Don't start. By checking emails or To Do List because that triggers your stress response. In essence, have an intention like mine is to be successful. My intention is to be comfortable or it's going to be to be calm. With that coworker. I can't stand something like that. Then they say, choose an offline ritual and stick to it. Stay off technology. It's that primes for distraction, so they say, read, write, take a walk, do some artwork, something like that. And then they say this is the one. If you're not a morning person, you won't like, they say, make it fun. Have fun, make yourself laugh or smile to

start the day. Call your. Funniest friend or? They say have a three minute dance party with yourself while getting ready for work. I do that one already every day. Who's going to add that one in? Kyle. Yeah, you are. OK. Yeah, the point is, have a good morning routine that sets up your day. Now I like all the things in there, but I would add 1 to it and that is making Jesus's presence part of your morning routine because Jesus Rosen is alive. We have his presence, so spend time with him every day. Have that set up your day. He's alive in our hearts. Every day, every morning. And there's a variety of ways to make him part of a morning routine, but I'll start. With the simple one and that is just to pray. If you feel like your morning is super rushed or you're always running out the door, I get that. But just pray, give it a couple minutes to start your day and pray there's an old saying that says let your knees hit the floor before your feet when you get out of bed, you're praying before you even start your day, so just a short prayer in the morning. Welcome him into your day to take over your heart and do that. Every day. OK. Now, if you can make a little more time, have a little more time in that morning, I would posit something that I do which is or try to do, which is called coffee with Jesus, right. This is my phrase. Something I like to do. Or I tried to do. Think about if you sit over coffee or tea or a. Pastry with a. Friend, what it's like, it's not rushed. The conversation can go in a variety of dire. Actions right? You might learn something from them. You're gonna get caught up, share life, laugh, cry. Anything with Jesus, it's. I pray, read my Bible sometimes, read other books. But it's just good quality time. Jesus. That's how I make him part of the morning routine. So go ahead and use something like that to just make that part of your morning and it can be anything else. Listen to music. Sit in silence. Go on a walk. It doesn't matter. But the point is to make sure Jesus presence is on your heart and mind as you start your day, you're growing your relationship with him. Every time you hang out with him in the morning like that or anytime of the day. Your relationship grows even if it feels like it's going backwards with him. It's growing. The more you spend time with him, Jesus Rose and is alive. He's alive in our hearts and we need to remember that every day, no matter how busy we might think we are or how busy we might be. In his book *The Ruthless Elimination of Hurry*, author and Pastor John Mark Comer has a quote about taking time with Jesus every day. He says this, so here's the tomorrow morning, 6:00 coffee. The chair by the window, the window by the tree. Time to breathe a Psalm and a story from the Gospels. Hearing the father's voice pouring out my own. Or just sitting resting. Maybe I'll hear a word from God that will alter my destiny. Maybe I'll just process my anger over something that's bothering me. Maybe I'll feel my mind settle, like untouched water. Maybe my mind will ricochet from thought to thought. And never come to rest. If so, that's fine. I'll be back same time tomorrow. Starting my day in the quiet place that's making God part of the morning routine in some way. Make God part of your morning routine. And when we have a good morning routine, it can lead to some other things. And one of those is energy. Good energy. That's where we're going to go

next. Psalm 47:5. Mine says God has ascended amid shouts of joy. The Lord, amid the sounding of trumpets, seeing praises to God, sing praises, seeing praises to our king. Sing praises for God is the king of all the earth. Sing to him a Psalm of praise. God reigns over the nations. God is seated on his holy throne. The nobles of the nations assemble as the people of the God of Abraham. For the kings of the Earth belong to God, he is greatly exalted, so this starts by referencing back to second Samuel in the Ark of the Covenant is brought into the city. David, David and this time famously dances. They say undignified before the Lord just thought of joy and out of praise. God is the king, and the king takes his throne. So they're blaring trumpets and people are shouting with joy. It's a sing. Praise, sing praise. Keep going. Keep praising. This is like you put a theme music and it's just on repeat. And it just keeps going. And going God is constantly being praised for who he is, right? I picture this and I see it. And it's not a solemn event, right. This is a high energy event. Some things take a lot even. Energy. Who here? Likes whipped cream, I promise. There's a reason I'm going here. Yeah, most of you. Right? Who knows how whipped cream is made? Come on, yes. Heavy cream. What do you? Do with it. You whip it, whip it, whip it good, right. You can't do it slowly. If you whip, you get out your whisk and you do it slowly. You still just have liquid cream. You have to put some energy into that whisk and into that whipped cream. I was going to do it up here live. And I'm like that's just going to go wrong so many ways or I'll make a mess with myself. But you have to get the air going. You have to get all the muscles in your arm to spin it. And no, don't use a mixer. Do it by hand. Prove it. You can do it right. It's why I lift weight so I can whisk well for no other reason. Right? It takes energy. Our energy that comes from the morning with. That morning routine. Is praise to God ideally in the morning? Ideally you have renewed energy. Ideally, you sleep well. You're not up in the middle of the night, so being a morning person brings new energy, ready to tackle the day with enthusiasm. Jesus rose from the grave, defeated death and gave us eternal life. That's the win of all wins that deserves the energy to whisk that whip. So we praise God, no matter what's going on, we give him praise no matter what we praise God. When things are great, praise God. When things are good, praise God. When things are men and you praise God when nobody else would praise when things are great or good, let's start there. This is when you're winning at life. Things are great. I hope things are great in your life. We praise God during this time. Enjoy it. Celebrate it. Praise God for the opportunities, for strength, for knowledge, for the abilities he gave you. And when we praise God in the good, or when we're humble about things being great, it doesn't diminish what you've done. OK, not at all. You can still be awesome and give God praise. What it does is it recognizes you weren't alone in it. You weren't alone in it. God was with you in it. As a Christian, you're never a lone wolf in anything. Jesus, always part of it. Because of what he did by rising from the dead on Easter. So give him praise that he's present. He's with you in the win and that he won a bigger thing we get to. Be part of. And we praise God and the men. The men is my phrase.

Here when things are just fine, fine is my default word. Anytime Stacey asked me how your day was. How you're doing. I'm like, fine. She wishes I would pick literally any other word in the English language other than fine. That is her least favorite word because I use it all the time. It's so nondescript. It means nothing. It's just kind of flat. But sometimes we feel this way. We need something to just get the blood flowing to get moving, to get hyped up a little bit. So when you're like this, praise God for rising right when you feel like it's just kind of things are fine. Praise God for rising, and I would hope, and I believe that it will boost. That energy. And then praise God when nobody else would. When it all hits the fan, everything kind of just sucks. This is when people might ask, well, where's your God in this? Right. He's all powerful, all knowing he's awesome. Why is this? Happening for you? This is an unfortunate question, but it's understandable, right? They wonder. I wonder. I've heard it. I've asked it. We've. To do it well, where is he? Where God is is right next to you, picking you up, giving you a shoulder to cry on while still sitting on his throne in heaven. He can do all those things at the same time, so praise God for being present in all of that. Praise him in the laughter and the joy and the tears and the four letter words praise him. In all of it, give him your energy and praise because of the fact that he rose, that allows him to be with us in all circumstances, so that energy we have in the morning comes out and praise to God, right? So a morning routine, we get some energy. It's also going to come with focus that will. Your third one focus, we're going to read first. Peter 1/3 through five, it says praise be to the God and the father of our Lord Jesus Christ, in his great mercy. He's given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, from the dead and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you. Who, through faith, are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that's ready to be revealed in the last. All right. So Peter, in this letter says, Peter, we're we're we have living hope through the resurrection. It's a hope that grows is expecting, it's not a hope that can diminish or fade away and that hope is in our inheritance in heaven with Jesus, we get to be a part of the new creation in heaven now. Heritance here isn't land that was promised a lot in the Old Testament. Right. It's not money or investments like we might think of inheritance. Now it's bigger and it's more long lasting than that. It can't perish, right? It can't die off like a flower might. It can't spoil. It's not the milk we left in the fridge for too long. It can't fade. It doesn't wear out like the knees of your kids jeans when they've been running around and playing on the floor so much, right? It's none of that. It's a heavenly inheritance. And that's something that we can focus on because it's what's coming. For a number of years I coached youth soccer. I had a variety of types of players, teams that were good, some less good. But I remember a game we played. And for as a team, we were gonna go for pizza after the game, and with a bunch of 12 year olds, it's. All that matters. Right. We're gonna get pizza after the game. So we played the game, we lost pretty badly. So many kids played well, some not so much. Some kids cared that we lost

others didn't. Every one of those kids was focused on going out for pizza after the game. They didn't care about anything else. They knew that no matter how well or poorly they played, whether we won or lost, pizza was coming later. Our inheritance as a result of Jesus resurrection is like the pizza after the game. Some people might play better than us. We might make some mistakes, but we're still getting that end goal that inheritance. So being a morning person comes with. This right, we want to focus on our heavenly inheritance. We all focus on things in the morning work, but we have to do stuff at home meetings. Kids maybe just taking the day off and you're focused on that. But we focus on something every morning and we talked in that first section about focusing on Jesus right here, right now. But because of the resurrection. We get to join Jesus in heaven and that's our final goal and focus. We can wake up every morning with a new and bigger focus on that, that our inheritance is in. Heaven, being a citizen of heaven and that word inheritance can bring up a variety of connotations, and we might think money or heirlooms or property or businesses and all these things are great, but they're temporary. They can get spent, get broken, get stolen, get rundown. Businesses can go under. And I know that sounds negative, but all of those things are very real possibilities. Heaven does precisely none of those things, yet we tend to focus on the temporary and not the eternal. And I get why right, the money or investments or anything like that, they feel more tangible. They're here and there now, and heaven, to many of us, can seem distant and far away. But the issue with worldly inheritance or even wealth or status that you might get with a job. So it's never enough. We always seem to want more. Want something bigger and better or want what? Somebody else has. And at the same time, we may want somebody else has the same time we're looking at somebody that maybe doesn't have as much or that we're maybe. A little better than. And we and we get with the phrase compare against kicks and this is a phrase from Carrie. Neuhoff is a pastor and author and he says it's the arrogance born of comparison. We get cocky because we think we're better off than somebody else. This all happens when our focus is earthly and material and not heavenly and spiritual. The earthly material stuff is stressful, right? Money. All that kind of stuff. Status. That's stressful, right? And if you're feeling the stress of all that we have stress balls you can take with you. They're actually at that front table. Go ahead and squeeze it. But. If you focus on the heavenly and the spiritual, that's a better stress ball than the ones we keep back there. That's the real stress ball because heaven doesn't wear out, run out and nobody has more or less. Or has it better or worse than you in heaven. And here's the thing. Most inheritances they come because someone dies, but ours comes because Jesus lives. That's the inheritance we have. So make that your focus every morning. Last one morning comes with opportunities opportunity. We're in read acts 432 through 34, all the believers. Were one in heart and mind, no one claimed that any of their possessions was there, but they shared everything they had with great power. The apostles continued to testify to their resurrection of the

Lord, and God's grace was so powerfully at work in them. All that there were no needy persons among them, for from time to time, those who owned land or houses sold them and brought them the money from the sale. So at this point Jesus has ascended into heaven. The Holy Spirit has come to the apostles of Pentecost, and now we have the church community. The followers of Jesus. And this group has grown right. The group is growing, but even with that they stay totally devoted to God. And they did this by sharing what they had with each other when someone was in need. They also shared the power of the resurrection. They talked about what Jesus did. There are people that didn't like that they were doing this, but they did it. Way. The apostles took every opportunity to share the truth and the power of their resurrection with others. They talked about it, and God's grace was on him as they did this, he wanted them to share this. He wanted his power to be shared, and he gave them his power and guidance while they did. It. They shared the gospel, and they knew whenever there was a need. Within their own community, they knew when to take the opportunity to sell or share something so that. Need was met. They took every opportunity to live out their resurrection through sharing. Serving opportunities. We've all had a variety of opportunities in our lives. Big, small, anything. There's one I was thinking about that I remembered in 8th grade. I went on a school trip to Washington, DC it was like a government workshop, and we visited Arlington National Cemetery, which is a big ceremony cemetery for servicemen and women. To be laid to rest, and it houses famously, the tomb of the Unknown Soldier, which is where remains of service members who are unknown from World War 1-2 in the Korean War. Well, I got the opportunity to be in a wreath laying ceremony. They they have a big and very official ceremony. Of them, where you walk up and there's a real place and I got to be a part of it. Like, not everybody gets that opportunity. So I took it. It was really cool, really moving kind of intimidating. But it's. One that we'll always remember when we think about opportunities, we tend to go to big ones like that, but we have opportunities every day. We have new opportunities every morning. Yesterday is over today. Brings new opportunities. So will we take them and make the most of them? And some days we do some days we don't. Being a morning person is being ready to accept and take whatever opportunities come your way, and based on Jesus resurrection, we have opportunities every day to share him and serve him and I want to talk about that really quick that we can share Jesus and serve others every day. Now I've heard people say, well, I I'm not supposed to share Jesus, I can't do that. I'm just at my normal job or I'm not qualified. Not somewhere, right? I'm not a missionary overseas or anything like that. I'm not supposed to do that. There's a quote by a guy named ask Guinness, who says the problem with Western Christians is that they aren't. Isn't that they aren't where they should be, but that they aren't what they should be, where they are, they aren't what they should be, where they are. You are right where God wants you to be right now. Being a follower of Jesus and a representative of Jesus right where you are. So don't wait for God to

put you somewhere else to share him. Share where you are. Share Jesus right that Jesus, who was in the Bible and the Jesus who we experience in our lives today, right that Jesus who was Jesus from the Gospels that came to Earth as fully human but was still God to save us from sin by dying on the cross and giving us eternal life by rising from the grave the Jesus that. Came to bring justice to those that were oppressed. The Jesus that came to be a friend of the marginalized, the poor, the low status. He welcomed them, included them, and they mattered to him. He called out hypocrisy from the religious leaders that were wrong and just full of themselves. Probably my favorite thing about him.

Yeah.

He loved women and children and valued them, which was not customary in his day. He did miracles and heal people from diseases and ailments, right? People might think, OK oh, he sounds cool, but he died of criminals. Death on the cross, right? Yeah, he totally did. Except he was totally innocent and died for our screw ups, not his own. He also rose from the grave Easter morning and he still lives. And that's the Jesus who's in our lives today that we can share. He gives conviction, guidance. He's our provider. He gives peace when we so desperately need it. Share your experience with Jesus. Right. People may deny your beliefs are called them crazy, but I think it's tougher for them to deny or discount your own experience when you talk about how you've experienced Jesus in your life. Some may, that's OK, but share Jesus and then serve Jesus. Matthew 20:28 says the son of man came not to be served, but to serve. That might be a new idea or. Concept and it might even sound super difficult. Maybe you feel like you have so much going on that you just can't spare any time for anything else or anyone else. I understand where you're coming from. I really do. We all hear the phrase or say the. Phrase. How was your day? Ohh, good. But busy. How you doing? Just busy, right? It's super common response when we ask, but take a step back and look what Jesus did. He wasn't too busy. For us, he wasn't too busy for others, so take time to serve others. There's a variety of ways to do this. If you're looking for some right here through hometown. When we give to Meadow Ridge, that's a huge way to serve or setting things up. Like the brunch. We can serve others and serve God in that. Way you can also serve God with whatever context you live in, work in, or hangout in. And I want to give one thought on serving others, though, and we serve others to serve others in Jesus, not to serve yourself. And here's what I mean is that we make sure we're serving someone in a way that they really need and something that they need and really serves them. You can give ideas and suggestions, let them tell you what they need or take the time to understand what the need. Really is makes serving about. Help them. It can and it should feel good to do it. That's great, but don't do it for you. Serve others for them in Jesus because God made every person in every situation unique. So see and understand the need for them and then meet it if you can. And if you can't, like, come and physically meet

the need, that's OK. I would encourage you to still pray for that person. That is also serving them and serving Jesus. Jesus, having risen and being alive, gives us opportunities to share him and serve him every day in different ways. So I encourage you to answer and respond to those opportunities. We're going to close up here and ask Mark to come back up. We're going to sing a few songs here. I encourage you to believe and accept First off, what we were talking about this morning, that Jesus is risen. Take the reality of Easter morning and let it be part of your morning reality, right, it's true and it's wonderful and there will inevitably be some things that try to take you from that truth from being that morning person. Those are lies that will try to take you away from the truth of God, and they will be enticing and probably easier and more comfortable at times. But hang on to the truth. You can handle that truth. We're starting a series next week right here in Galatians that is called you can handle the truth and a big theme of that is going to be holding to the truth or getting back to the truth you've been told. Otherwise. So I'd love to have you come back and start that with us, but for today, except that Jesus has risen for the first time, or remember for the thousandth time. But he rose in the morning, he rose in our hearts. That makes this morning people. Let's pray God to thank you for this morning. Again, I thank you, Jesus rose. And just what that means the reality of that, that he lives in heaven, that he lives with us. Because of that we have eternal life got. That we can we can share him. We can have him in our lives every day. And God, I just thank you that we have that that we can take comfort in that God, we can take peace in that. So I pray that as we wrap things up today and we we go to do whatever we're going to do with our Easter and we come into the next week that we would remember to put you on our hearts every day and every morning for us in your name. Amen.