

# EASTER

## —GROUP GUIDE—

Message: *It is Finished*

April 4-5, 2026

*"It is finished!" Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.*

**John 19:30b (NLT)**

---

## CONNECT

- If new people have joined your group, take time to introduce yourselves to each other.
- What's one of the bravest things you've ever done? How'd that turn out?
- Sometimes only afterward do we realize the significance of a particular event. Describe a time that's happened to you.

---

## PRAY

Spend a few minutes quieting your hearts and turning your attention toward God. Allow time for people in the group to voice their prayers. Consider using these prayer prompts as a guide:

### **Celebrate the Resurrection**

Take a moment to let yourself feel the joy of Jesus' victory over death. Let that hope sink into your heart.

### **Give Thanks for New Life**

Thank God for the fresh start He gives you each day and the grace that keeps renewing you, even when life feels messy.

### **Remember Your Freedom**

Reflect on the freedom Jesus won for you—freedom from guilt, shame and the weight of sin. Breathe that in.

### **Embrace Transformation**

Ask God to gently shape your heart and life, helping you step into the hope and newness of His resurrection.

### **Live and Share the Victory**

Pray for courage to let others see the hope and joy Christ brings, and for opportunities to share His love in your everyday life.

---

## STUDY AND DISCUSSION

### Read John 19:19-27

1. Why did Pilate post the sign on the cross? What did it say and why is it significant that it was written in Aramaic, Latin and Greek?
2. What other events in verses 23-27 immediately lead up to Jesus saying, "*It is finished*" (in verse 30)?
3. What details does John include that seem important?
4. How would you have felt if you were there watching what was happening?

### Read John 19:28-35

5. What did Jesus complete, finish or accomplish according to the following passages:
  - a. Hebrews 10:12-14
  - b. Romans 3:23; 6:23
  - c. Romans 8:1-4
6. Read Zechariah 12:10-11, which is quoted in verse 37. How is the response in Zechariah also an appropriate response to this real death that brings real deliverance from sin?
7. What does the empty tomb symbolize in your life today?
8. How would you explain the significance of Easter to someone unfamiliar with it?
9. What does it look like to live as someone who believes Jesus is alive?

---

## FOR FURTHER STUDY

- Examine the characters listed in the following passages. What was their role and/or reaction to the death and resurrection of Jesus?
- Who do you relate to the most?

### **Pontius Pilate**

Matthew 27:22–26

Reaction:

### **Roman Soldiers**

Matthew 27:27–31

Reaction:

### **The Centurion at the Cross**

Matthew 27:54

Reaction:

### **Mary (Mother of Jesus)**

John 19:25–27

Reaction:

### **John (the Apostle)**

John 20:2–8

Reaction:

### **Mary Magdalene**

Matthew 28:1–10

Reaction:

### **The Two Criminals**

Luke 23:39–43

Reaction:

### **Thomas**

John 20:24–29

Reaction:

### **The 11 Disciples**

Matthew 28:16-20

Reaction:

---

## PERSONAL IMPACT

Based on what you read or discussed, what's one thought stirring in your mind you want to keep thinking about? What's stirring in your heart? Pause and ask God what He wants you to know and maybe a step He wants you to take.

Invite someone to close your group time in prayer.

**Tetelestai** is the Greek word translated *It is finished* (in John 19:30). It's not a cry of defeat. It's a victorious declaration that: The mission is accomplished, the debt is paid, redemption is secured, and the work is finished—once and for all.