

Easter at Harbor

So Loved

LifeNotes

TALK IT OVER

Main Idea

"He is not here, He has risen!", because you are so loved.

Key Scriptures

"Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen!" Luke 24:5-6 NIV

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16 NIV

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 6:23 NIV

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast. Ephesians 2:8-9 NIV

Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Matthew 11:28 NLT

Two words change everything.

You are so loved!

- So loved he came.
- So loved he gave.
- So loved He suffered.
- So loved He endured.
- So loved He overcame.
- So loved He forgives.
- So loved He redeemed.

Start talking.

- Why do long, layered stories often get attention and critical acclaim?
- What are the short, simple phrases that have made lasting impact on your life?
- What simple phrases have you spoken into/over others?

Start thinking.

- Read Luke 24:5-6. Why would the angel ask that question? How would the women have received that question?
- What thoughts would have ran through the women's minds at the angel's declaration?
- Read John 3:16. Who does God love? Why does it matter that He wasn't more specific? How does this define the "why" of the crucifixion and resurrection?

- Read Romans 6:23. What equation the Paul say needed to be balanced? How did Jesus balance it? When does eternal life begin?
- Read Ephesians 2:8-9. Why is it foundational to Christian belief that grace and faith are how we are saved?
- Read Matthew 11:28. How does this verse further reveal Jesus' "why" and character?

Start sharing.

- Why does it matter for you what drove Jesus to the cross?
- Remove "the world" from John 3:16 and insert your name. How does that change its impact for you?
- How do you get caught in trying to earn what Jesus freely gave?
- What often holds you back from coming fully and consistently to Jesus?

Start doing.

- Write John 3:16 (replacing "the world" with your name and underlining "so loved") and Matthew 11:28 on an index card and place it in a place of prominence to memorize and meditate on.

Closing prayer.

Jesus, you gave all you are for all I am and for all I have yet to become. I praise you! I worship you! You are my redeemer. You are the risen Lord. Help me to remember and believe that I am so loved by you.