



## Leader's Guide - Living Easter

Mark 4:1-20, Romans 8:11, Romans 8:37, 1 Peter 1:3, John 20 | Pastor Dave Bennett | April 5, 2026

### Session Overview

This session helps participants examine the subtle danger of spiritual amnesia - forgetting who Jesus is and what He said - and invites them to live in the daily power of the resurrection. The group will reflect on the difference between surviving and living in victory, consider how to move from Saturday to Sunday in everyday life, and respond to Easter not as a once-a-year event, but as a way of life.

### Session Flow (60-75 minutes)

#### 1. Welcome and Icebreaker (10 min)

When life feels heavy or uncertain, what helps you remember truth instead of getting stuck in your emotions or circumstances?

*Purpose:*

To help participants begin identifying where spiritual amnesia shows up in real life and to prepare them to think honestly about what it means to live Easter every day.

#### 2. Scripture Reading (5 min)

Read Mark 4:1-20, Romans 8:11, Romans 8:37, 1 Peter 1:3, and selected portions of John 20 aloud.

Optional: Also reference Mark 8:31, Hebrews 13:8, 2 Timothy 1:7, John 10:10, 1 Peter 5:7, Colossians 3:1, Lamentations 3:21-23, Luke 9:23, Romans 12:2, and 2 Corinthians 5:7 during discussion.

### 3. Discussion (40-50 min)

Use 6-8 of the following questions depending on time and group size. Encourage personal honesty, spiritual reflection, and practical application more than abstract conversation.

#### **Leader Coaching Sidebar: Living Easter**

- Help the group identify how easy it is to drift into survival mode, even while knowing the Easter story.
- Keep returning the conversation to truth: resurrection life is meant to shape everyday living.
- Encourage participants to notice where emotions, distraction, or hardship may be crowding out truth.
- Emphasize that Easter is not only something we celebrate - it is something we are called to live.
- Move people from vague ideas to specific practices of daily remembering, surrender, and renewed faith.
- End with hope: the same Spirit that raised Jesus from the dead lives in believers today.

### Discussion Questions

**1. The sermon describes spiritual amnesia as forgetting who Jesus is and what He said. Why is that such a dangerous condition for believers?**

Leader Note: Help the group connect forgotten truth with everyday discouragement, fear, confusion, or drift.

**2. The disciples in John 20 were fearful, grieving, ashamed, and overwhelmed after the crucifixion. Which part of their Saturday condition feels most relatable to people today?**

Leader Note: Create room for honesty. Let the group name real struggles without rushing past them.

**3. According to Mark 4, what are some of the main reasons truth does not take deep root in us? Which one do you think is most common in your own life right now?**

Leader Note: Guide participants from general agreement to personal ownership.

**4. The sermon says we often replace truth with emotion. What does that look like in real life, and how can we recognize when it is happening?**

Leader Note: Encourage practical examples. This question works well when people can connect it to daily patterns.

**5. What does it mean to move from Saturday to Sunday spiritually - from survival mode to resurrection living?**

Leader Note: Draw out the contrast between living for victory and living from victory.

**6. Romans 8:11 says the same Spirit that raised Jesus from the dead lives in us. How should that truth reshape the way we face fear, fatigue, hardship, or failure?**

Leader Note: Keep the focus on identity and power in Christ, not just positive thinking.

**7. The message says Easter is not an annual event, but a way of life. What daily habits help us remember truth and live with a resurrection mindset?**

Leader Note: Listen for practices like remembering Scripture, surrender, prayer, renewed thinking, and choosing faith over feelings.

**8. What would it look like for you personally to step into Sunday this week and live more like a resurrection person?**

Leader Note: End with specific application. Encourage one concrete response instead of a vague intention.

#### **4. Application and Prayer (10-15 min)**

Invite each person to reflect on where they may be living in Saturday instead of Sunday. Ask: "What is one specific way you can remember truth, surrender to Jesus, and live Easter this week?"

#### **Closing Prayer Suggestion**

Lord, thank You that Easter is not just something we celebrate once a year, but a life You call us to live every day. Forgive us for the ways we forget who You are and what You have said. Fill us again with resurrection hope, renew our minds with truth, and help us walk by faith instead of fear. Teach us to live as people of Sunday - full of hope, courage, surrender, and victory in Jesus. Amen.