The welcome verse for this week is Romans 8:11, "If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you."



Good News for the Disappointed Psalm 42:3-6; John 20:1-18

The Bottom Line: The risen Jesus is Lord over life and death.

Introduction:

When was the last time you were *really* disappointed?

Disappointment is what happens when your present reality and expectation does not match up.

Some will find it hard to celebrate the hope that we have today because they are in the midst of disappointment.

Tension:

How do we worship a good and powerful God when we suffer so much?

There is so much chaos around the world on this Easter Sunday, around the world and even in our own lives. Hope does not seem extremely helpful today.

Truth:

If Jesus did not walk out of his grave, hope would not be helpful. In fact, it would not even exist (1 Corinthians 15:14). Still, the risen Jesus offers a better story to those who have been weighed down with disappointment.

Disappointment was certainly the case for the early followers of a now-dead Jesus, but their stories quickly changed when Sunday came. **Read John 20:1-18.**

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Application & Conclusion:

The risen Jesus is Lord over life and death. He is the reigning and victorious King over every circumstance that may come and will one day defeat death entirely. With every triumph comes another opportunity to testify of the power of God, saying, "I have seen the Lord!" He can do all things. There is nothing too great or too strong, no one too powerful or mighty. The eternal God is fully able to deliver us from today's grief.

Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation and my God. ~ Psalm 42:5-6a

Discussion questions for group this week:

- 1. What does this teach me about God?
- 2. What does this teach me about me?

| 3. How do I apply this to my life? |
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| 4. If I could ask a question about this it would be |
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