

Spring 2010

SMALL GROUP SERIES

Christ and Culture

Discussion Guide
Week 1

Small Groups 
Transforming Community @ RBCPC

Christ and Culture: Jesus and Easter Eggs

Luke 24:1-12 (TNIV)

1 On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. 2 They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, 3 but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. 4 While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. 5 In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? 6 He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: 7 'The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.' " 8 Then they remembered his words.

9 When they came back from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the others. 10 It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the others with them who told this to the apostles. 11 But they did not believe the women, because their words seemed to them like nonsense. 12 Peter, however, got up and ran to the tomb. Bending over, he saw the strips of linen lying by themselves, and he went away, wondering to himself what had happened.

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Facilitator's Guide

Welcome to the Spring 2010 *Christ and Culture* series. The weekly sermon schedule is:

Apr. 3/4	Jesus and Easter Eggs
Apr. 10/11	Jesus and Hollywood
Apr. 17/18	Jesus and Reality TV
Apr. 24/25	Jesus and the American Family
May 1/2	Jesus and the Work Space

Although the small group discussion guides are based on the scripture references, including sermon content might add some diversity to your discussions. One of the main points of this sermon series is how Jesus is relevant in our culture today. Through listening to the sermons it might help, especially with the "live it" section of the discussion guide. The sermons are available by video, audio, and written script on our website: www.rbcpc.org. Hard copies are also available in the Welcome Center.

Facilitator Tips

The beginning of a new series is a great time to "refresh" and "refocus" on some aspects of small group sessions that help make them positive, growth experiences for everyone. Here are a few important things to remember for facilitators, *especially* if your group is just starting out:

- Pray for your group before others begin arriving and invite the Holy Spirit to be a part of the time you have together.
- Begin and end ON TIME as much as possible.
- Allow time for people in the group to get to know one another. Relationships are at the core of vital small groups.
- Work at cultivating trust, honesty, respect, and sincerity.
- Invite the group to share in leadership. You could share the opportunity of facilitating, plan some social time for the group on another night, have someone else be responsible to bring refreshments, or have another in the group lead prayer time.

Contacts:

Your small group team is here for you! Please feel free to contact us:

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www.rbcpc.org/connect/small-groups/

Christ and Culture: Jesus and Easter Eggs

START IT

- What's an Easter tradition you had as a family?
- What does Easter mean to you?

STUDY IT

- Read the Luke passage. What's the story? Make observations.
- What were the women expecting to find at the tomb? Why did they go?
- What was disappointing to Jesus' followers after he was crucified?
- Who do you think the two men were?
- What's significant about Jesus rising from the dead? (Multiple answers!)
- What changed for the disciples when they found out Jesus had risen?
- What happened when Jesus rose from the dead?
- What implications has Easter had on the world?
- What would it look like to live as though the resurrection was real, not a myth?

LIVE IT

- How can we live like today is the "first day of the week" and join in with what Jesus is doing?
- What might change about your life if you really believed in the resurrection?

PRAY IT

- For courage to live like the resurrection is real.