

EASTER CHANGES EVERYTHING

Luke 24:36-53

Sunday, April 9, 2023 AVBC 10:30 am

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" (John 20:19)

1. People change when they _____ so much that they _____ to change.

So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he (Thomas) said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe." (John 20:25)

2. People change when they _____ so much that they _____ to change.

-I've seen this over and over and over again
-lives changed when exposed to truth/God's Word

For the Word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. (Hebrews 4:12)

The rain and snow come down from the heavens and stay on the ground to water the earth. They cause the grain to grow, producing seed for the farmer and bread for the hungry. It is the same with My word. I send it out, and it always produces fruit. It will accomplish all I want it to, and it will prosper everywhere I send it. (Isaiah 55:10,11)

3. People change when they _____ so much that they are _____ to change.

The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace. (Numbers 6:24-26)

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ... Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen. (Ephesians 1:3; 3:20-21)

DIGGING DEEPER

(For use in personal/family devotions or with your care group)

Q1: When you think of the concept of "change", is your mind filled with positive or negative thoughts? Why?

Q2: Can you think of a time in your life when pain and pressure required you to change? If so, explain.

Q3: Pastor Dave mentioned that we have a Saviour who has scars. What do you think is the difference between a wound and a scar? Why are each important in their own way?

Q4: What does this verse teach us about the power and purpose of God's Word? *So will My word be which goes out of My mouth; It will not return to Me empty, Without accomplishing what I desire, And without succeeding in the purpose for which I sent it. (Isaiah 55:11)*

Q5: Read Romans 10:8-17. What do these verses teach us about the connection between the Word of God and the faith God requires to produce change in our lives?

Q6: When you think of God's blessing and enabling in your life, what comes to mind?

Q7: What do the following verses teach us about the ultimate and eternal change the Lord wants to do in each of our lives?

-John 3:16, John 5:24, I Peter 3:18, John 10:10-11