

## The Son is Up! John 20

**Purpose:** To affirm the reality of Jesus' resurrection and equip believers to engage those who struggle with doubt or disbelief.

**Group Discussion:** How do you think you would respond if someone you trust told you they had seen someone come back to life?

1. (Verses 1-9) What unique observations or experiences does each of the three witnesses (Mary, Peter, and "the other disciple") bring to the story of the empty tomb?
2. Why is the empty tomb such an important foundation for our faith?
3. (Verses 10-18) John describes three appearances of the risen Jesus: to Mary Magdalene, the disciples, and Thomas. Why do you think Mary didn't recognize Him at first? Once she realized who He was, what stands out most to you about their meeting?
4. (Verses 19-23) When Jesus meets with His disciples after the resurrection, what does He give and promise them? Why do you think each of these is meaningful or necessary?
5. (Verses 24-29) In what ways does Thomas's doubts (and his later confession) help confirm the reality of the risen Christ?
6. (Verse 28) Why is Thomas's declaration, "My Lord and my God" such a powerful conclusion to all that John has revealed about Jesus?"
7. What does Jesus' response to Thomas teach us about how to respond to people who struggle to believe?
8. What convinces you personally that Jesus truly rose from the dead?
9. Why is it essential to believe not only in Jesus' death for our sins, but also in His resurrection? How are the two connected?
10. (Verses 30-31) John says he wrote so "*that we might believe*". Which of the miracles in his Gospel has most impacted your faith, and what about it stands out to you?

**What to pray for:** honor Jesus as the risen Savior and proclaim, like Thomas did: "My Lord and my God".