

**Easter 2022
Welcome Home
April 17, 2022**

1. **Pastor John said...** "No one disputes if Jesus was a real person who changed our world."

Question: How has Jesus changed the world?

Question: How has Jesus changed your world personally?

2. **Inattentional Blindness = The surprising failure to notice something so obvious.**

Question: Did you see the big toothbrush: It was bigger than our expectations?

Question: How has your attention or lack of attention affected your relationship with Jesus?

3. **Read the following scriptures...**

From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life. (Matthew 16:21)

*After they gathered again in Galilee, Jesus told them, "The Son of Man is going to be **betrayed** into the hands of his enemies. He will be **killed**, but on the **third day** he will be **raised from the dead**." (Matthew 17:22-23 NLT)*

*"Listen," he said, "we're going up to Jerusalem, where the Son of Man will be **betrayed** to the leading priests and the teachers of religious law. They will sentence him to **die**. Then they will hand him over to the Romans to be mocked, flogged with a whip, and **crucified**. But on the **third day** he will be **raised from the dead**." (Matthew 20:18-19 NLT)*

Pastor John said... Who He was and what He did was way bigger than what anyone could have imagined. So many around Jesus were focusing on the wrong things.

Question: How have you focused on the wrong things concerning Jesus?

4. *When we were utterly helpless, Christ came at just the right time and died for us sinners. Now, most people would not be willing to die for an upright person, though someone might perhaps be willing to die for a person who is especially good. But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners. (Romans 5:6-8 NLT)*

Question: How has God's unconditional exceeded your wildest expectations?

Question: What do you do when your attention gets focused on everything else but God.

5. *I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved... (John 10:9)*

Discuss the 3 doors...

A. The wrong door. Trying to find fulfillment in anything or anyone outside of Jesus.

Do not love the world or anything in the world... For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world. The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever. (1 John 2:15-17)

Question: What are some things you have pursued for fulfillment that left out Jesus?

B. The locked door.

Thinking that the "key" to being good with God is my good works.

God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself, not reckoning to them their trespasses.
(2 Corinthians 5::19 ASV)

C. The slammed door.

Thinking God is ashamed of you and won't accept you because of your past.

John 3:16-21

16 "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. 17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. 18 Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God's one and only Son. 19 This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. 20 Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that his deeds will be exposed. 21 But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what he has done has been done through God."

NIV

...because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him. (Acts 2:24 NIV)

Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized every one of you, in the name of Jesus for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." (Acts 2:38 NIV)

"Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day." (Acts 2:41)

God invites anyone who wants to be forgiven and come home to Him to:

1. Believe in Jesus.

2. Repent of your sins.

3. Be baptized.

Have you made this confessions of Jesus? "I believe—that Jesus is the Christ—the Son of the Living God—my Savior and Lord!"

Have you been baptized as a believing consenting believer?

If not why not?