

FAMILY DEVOTION PROMPT

As we celebrate Easter, we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. In doing so, we focus on his perfect life on earth, his death on the cross, and his resurrection from the grave. But did you know that Jesus was a lot like us?

Write "yes" by any of the following statements about Jesus that could also describe you! As you go, read the verses next to the statements:

1. Came to earth as a baby (Luke 2:7)
2. Learns and grows (Luke 2:52)
3. Gets hungry (Matthew 4:2)
4. Gets tired and needs rest (John 4:6)
5. Needs something to drink (John 4:7)
6. Cries and feels sad (John 11:35)
7. Tempted to do things that are wrong (Hebrews 4:15)
8. Does not sin (Hebrews 4:15) *Only Jesus can answer "yes" to this one!*

Jesus was human like us, but he was also fully God. He took on human limitations, but we see that he was still God because of the miracles he performed, like walking on water (Matthew 14:22-33), raising people from the dead (John 11:38-44), and telling the wind to stop blowing (Mark 4:35-41).

Jesus was perfect; he never did anything wrong. We can't say that about ourselves, can we? We do a lot of things that are wrong. We call these things sin: things like lying, saying mean things, stealing, and being unkind. We do all these and more. Jesus never did any of them. Our sin keeps us separated from God. The only way to be God's friend is to be forgiven of our sin. Jesus died on the cross and rose from the grave in order for us to be able to ask God to forgive our sins.

That is why we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus! That is why we say, "He is risen. He is risen indeed." We stand on the biblical truth that we worship and serve a risen Savior.

Read Philippians 2:5-11 and talk about what it means when Paul says, "Jesus Christ is Lord."

- Pastor Vince

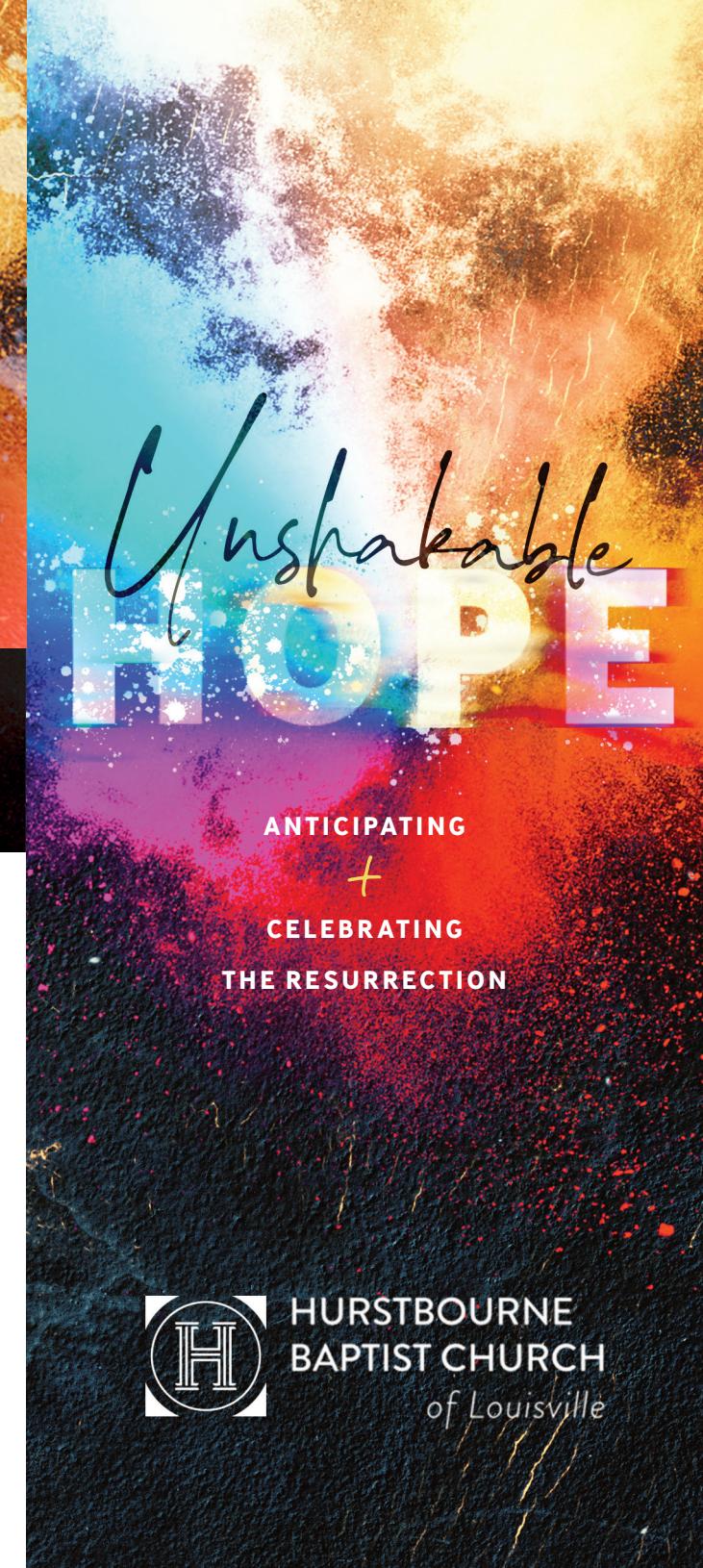


CELEBRATE EASTER WITH US!

Jesus is risen from the dead and has given us victory over the grave! Join us at Hurstbourne Baptist Church this Easter as we gather to worship our Risen Savior, Jesus!

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you. – I Peter 1:3-4

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AN INVITATION

Dear Church Family,

Worrying is easy, especially after a year like 2020. We have faced unexpected grief, anxiety, loss, and disappointment. Today, I invite you into a more difficult and rewarding task: hope with me. However fatigued you may feel, remember: Easter is coming! Allow the words you read and the questions you ponder to be practical embers of hope that you carry with you this week. May you glow with the joy of the resurrection.

- Hannah Deaton

QUESTIONS TO PONDER:

1. What is one reason you're excited to celebrate the resurrection this year?
2. What is one way your family celebrates the resurrection?
3. What is one verse you love to ponder concerning the hope of the resurrection?

Here's how our pastors responded!



CELEBRATING WITH JOY

PASTOR CHASE

(1) I am excited to celebrate the resurrection this year for the same reason I am excited every year! It is proof that Jesus is REAL! Since Jesus got up on the third day, we can trust everything he said. He is truth, he is life, he is the way!

(2) The Grubb family celebrates the resurrection just like we celebrate Christ's birth. We go to church in the morning and then we all meet up on the farm for dinner that afternoon. There is a lot of eating, even more talking, a reading of the Resurrection passage, and then an Easter Egg hunt.

(3) Romans 8:31-34



CELEBRATING THROUGH WORSHIP

PASTOR TREVOR

(1) I'm excited to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus this year because, as his follower, I can consider myself absolutely free from the bondage of sin and death, and absolutely alive through the resurrection of Christ. (Romans 6:11)

(2) Every Easter, we have our family come to town and we attend our church worship service together. We love the opportunity to gather with our church family on Easter Sunday to worship Jesus through singing, Scripture reading, prayer, and the preaching of his word.

(3) 1 Peter 1:3-5



CELEBRATING ON PURPOSE

PASTOR JEREMY

(1) I am especially excited to celebrate Easter this year. In 2020, we were all in lockdown. That was the strangest Easter of my life. I even officiated a funeral on Easter Sunday in 2020. This year, I plan to celebrate on purpose. By God's grace, no matter what else is happening in the entire world on April 4, I will rejoice in the Lord. I will take joy in the God of my salvation (Habakkuk 3:18).

(2) We eat delicious foods. We buy flowers. We smile on purpose. We rest. We play. We give thanks. We go to church to sing, to celebrate our Risen Lord Jesus with our church family, and to be reminded that the Resurrection is a real event in human history. We send text messages to friends and family that say, "He is Risen." And we savor their response, "He is Risen indeed." In these ways, we intentionally defy sin and death and sadness on Easter Sunday. We long for the coming of Christ. And we remember his promise: I am coming soon! (Revelation 22:7, 12)

(3) 1 Corinthians 15



CELEBRATING THROUGH TRADITION

PASTOR VINCE

(1) Our hope is in the light of Jesus, not in the darkness of this world. He conquered darkness, he conquered death.

(2) Our celebration of the resurrection has always been connected to the church: Good Friday Service, Sunrise Service, and Resurrection. Celebration on Resurrection Sunday. He is risen, he is risen indeed.

(3) Matthew 28:6



CELEBRATING GLOBALLY

PASTOR PRASAD

(1) I am excited because the resurrection of Jesus Christ is the most important foundation of Christianity (1 Corinthians 15:14)! Many faith gurus, teachers, and founders of religion have come into this world, but every one of them died. Only Jesus died for our sins and rose again from the dead. His tomb is empty, and He is alive today! Jesus's resurrection gives us hope of everlasting life.

(2) In India, Easter is a time of celebration! Christian people buy new clothes, and churches have early morning Easter services that are followed by a big meal. For me and my family, Easter is a time of fellowship, food and faith. We generally invite family and friends for dinner and share the resurrection story with them.

(3) Romans 8:34



CELEBRATING FUTURE GLORY

PASTOR JEFF

(1) I am excited to celebrate Easter in-person with my church family!

(2) We always worship with other believers in-person. (Except for 2020.)

(3) Near the end of Jesus's prayer in the upper room with his disciples (John 17), he prays that his followers "may be with me where I am." At the end of it all, the Lord of glory wants his chosen ones to be with him and see his glory first-hand. What a great moment that will be!