

## The Uncommon Kingdom: Easter - Gates

Jonathan Cleveland

Matthew 7:13-14 & Matthew 28:1-10

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### Discussion and Reflection Guide

#### **Holidays like Easter are regular and repeatable moments for us as the Church**

It is a chance to consider the story we find ourselves in and the singular event that changed everything for us.

- \*How do you commemorate special days like Easter? What traditions help you step into the story?
- \*What part does remembrance play in your spiritual life?

#### **The story the Bible tells is the single greatest explanation of what has gone wrong and what could go right**

Some stories answer questions that we carry in our souls.

- \*How have you experienced this to be true for you in the Bible?
- \*What stood out to you about this retelling of the story today? What questions did it bring up?
- \*What do you want to take some time with to consider?

#### **There is a narrow road that aligns our lives with what we were created to be**

Read and discuss Matthew 7:13-14 (NIV)

<sup>13</sup> "Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. <sup>14</sup> But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.

- \*On what road do you think you are walking?
- \*What are you looking towards to satisfy the ache of what has been lost? What has this 'destruction' looked like in your life?

#### **Suddenly we realize that it is only Jesus who sets things right and leads us home**

Read and discuss Matthew 28:1-10 (NIV)

**28** After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb. <sup>2</sup> There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. <sup>3</sup> His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. <sup>4</sup> The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men. <sup>5</sup> The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. <sup>6</sup> He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. <sup>7</sup> Then go quickly and tell his disciples: 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.' Now I have told you." <sup>8</sup> So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. <sup>9</sup> Suddenly Jesus met them. "Greetings," he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him. <sup>10</sup> Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

- \*Where is He trying to show up in your life with a reason for joy?
- \*How might this Easter become a memorable milestone in your life of faith?
- \*What do you sense the Spirit is saying to you about walking the narrow road with Jesus?