

EASTER WEEK

March 24 THE COMING KING 9& 11AM

March 28 THE AGONIZING KING 6:30PM

March 29 THE CRUCIFIED KING 6:30PM

March 31 THE RISEN KING 8AM 10AM 12PM

AWAKENLV.ORG/EASTER





THE GOSPEL-CENTERED LIFE

BUT GOD EPHESIANS 2:1-7



If you haven't had a BUT GOD moment You haven't yet met God.

We are built for comebacks. What do I mean by that? There seems to be intrinsic excitement when the underdog wins the race. Like the stunning 2004 Red Sox comeback against the Yankees in the American League playoffs in the fourth game of the ninth inning! Most humans live with hope and even anticipation that those who are down and out will be lifted up and brought into a new season of flourishing. This is true in all facets of life. That desire to see setbacks turn into comebacks is built into our DNA, and I believe God has put it there. He has done that to prepare our hearts to yearn for the gospel. To arrive at a place where we recognize our desperate need and experience our own but God moment. That moment when He forgives our sins and resurrects us spiritually. When He changes our identity and our destiny forever, God is the One who wants this for you. Even before you knew you needed it.

There is only one way for this to happen, and only one Person can bring it to pass—God. When He does it, it is done and done.

(10 min) OPENING PRAYER

Ask God to permeate your time with His presence. Pray that God would reveal in a fresh how powerful and profound His work in your life has been. Ask God to open your eyes to your new identity and destiny in Jesus. Ask Him to show you what it means that He is kind

(25 min) TIME TO CONSIDER

As you've had the opportunity to reflect on what God has spoken to you through this week's lesson, consider these questions as a group and discuss them.

1. As a group, discuss how fallen and far from God we are in our natural state. What does this mean concerning reaching God on our efforts or abilities? Do you believe this is humanity's condition overall, and if so, why?

Your situation will only change if you deal with the truth.

2. Paul states the key reason or motivation for God's intervention in our lives. What was it? Discuss how Paul describes God's mercy and love. What impact does that have on your life?

Romans 5:8 "But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

3. In Christ, we are spiritually resurrected and seated in the heavenly places with Him. What does that mean?

The kindness of God in His grace towards you means He wants your turn around!

WEEKLY MEMORIZATION VERSES: **Ephesians 2:4-5** "But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ."

EXPERIENCING THE SPIRIT TOGETHER: Spend time as a life group praying and discussing the key things that emerge from your discussion of this week's questions. Remember, the ultimate purpose of what God has done in your life is to show the immeasurable riches of His grace and kindness toward us. Does that show in your life? Does it show in the way you speak and how you live?

(5 min) LIVE IT

Be intentional about centering each day this week around the presence of Christ in your life. Begin each day in prayer and dedicate daily time to reading Scripture. Live to the new life that God has given you. Let the reality of the gospel frame your identity and your destiny. Expect your days to be filled with joy as you focus on all God has done.

