



SERMON GUIDES

Talking through the message during the week helps you and your group turn what God is saying to you into action steps. Begin with the key questions, add in any optional scriptures and questions if needed, then wrap up by deciding on your next steps.

Visit woodlakeumc.org/sermonessentials for weekly sermon guides, devotionals, and more or if you have questions, contact Jill Perrin at jperrin@woodlakeumc.org.

Easter Sermon | WEEK #1

01.

INTRODUCTION

This week's sermon will focus on the "even if it means" type of love exhibited by Jesus during his death and resurrection.

02.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. In **Matthew 28:1-10** we learn about Jesus's resurrection.
 - a. What was the response of Mary Magdalene and the other Mary?
 - b. What is the significance of the angel rolling back the stone after they arrived?
 - c. The angel gave the women (4) distinct messages. What were they? What do the messages mean to us in the way we live our lives?
2. Pastor Gordon told the story about a person named Rena whose mother was dying from cancer and one of her dying wishes was fulfilled in a very unexpected way.
 - a. How do the Chef's actions show the "even if it means" love towards the dying mother and her family? What was the Chef sacrificing through his actions? What was he gaining?
 - b. Are there examples in your life where you were in a similar situation to the chef? The family? Please share.
3. In **Ephesians 3:14-21**, Paul prays for the Ephesians to know the extent of God's love for us.
 - a. List the adjectives Paul uses to describe God's love for us.
 - b. In what ways can you harness the power that brought Jesus back to life to resurrect our spiritually dead selves?
 - c. How will you incorporate an "even if it means" kind of love to others you interact with in your community?



SERMON GUIDES

Talking through the message during the week helps you and your group turn what God is saying to you into action steps. Begin with the key questions, add in any optional scriptures and questions if needed, then wrap up by deciding on your next steps.

Visit woodlakeumc.org/sermonessentials for weekly sermon guides, devotionals, and more or if you have questions, contact Jill Perrin at jperrin@woodlakeumc.org.

4. Pastor Gordon discussed a specific moment in his life where he came to know Jesus PERSONALLY in his life. He also describes flowers blooming after ice storms signifying new life.
 - a. Do you know Jesus personally? If so, at what point in your life did you cross over from knowing of Jesus to personally knowing him?
 - b. In what ways can the unconditional love of Christ create a new beginning for you?
 - c. How do the flowers in Pastor Gordon's story represent Jesus in our life?



NEXT STEPS

1. Go forth and show the "even if it means" love towards your family, community and others who God divinely places in your path.
2. Reflect on the ways that you know Jesus is alive and always here for you.