

**EASTER: THE KEYS** 

#### **BIG IDEA**

Jesus holds the keys to death and hell. His resurrection proves His power to save.

#### CONTEXT

The Book of Revelation, written by the Apostle John while he was exiled on the island of Patmos, is a prophetic vision concerning the end times and the ultimate victory of good over evil. Revelation 1 sets the stage for the entire book by introducing the glorified Christ and His messages to the seven churches of Asia Minor.

In Revelation 1:17-18, John describes his encounter with the glorified Christ, who reassures him not to be afraid. Jesus proclaims Himself as the First and the Last, the living one who died and is now alive forevermore, holding the keys of Death and Hell.

#### **ICEBREAKER**

Share your favorite Easter tradition or memory from your childhood. Share a spiritual Easter tradition that your family has now or you would like to start.

### **SCRIPTURE**

17 When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, "Fear not, I am the first and the last, 18 and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades."

#### **GROUP DISCUSSION**

What is one thing that stood out to you from the sermon and why do you think God wants you to remember this truth?

In vs 17, what was the Apostle John's response when he saw Jesus? What do you think your response will be?

What is the significance of Jesus laying His right hand on John? Share a time when someone laid their hand on your arm or shoulder. What did that communicate to you in the moment and how did it make you feel?

What does verse 17-18 tell us about who Jesus is and His character? Especially concerning Jesus using an "I am" statement that was reserved for God the Father.

Using the key words from the passage (below) and the sermon, how does the Apostle John tell the Gospel through this prophetic vision?

- Jesus claims, 'I am".
- He's the first and last.
- He's the "living one".
- He died and is "alive forevermore".
- He holds the Keys to Death and Hades.

**Deeper Community:** Share what this Easter has meant to you personally and what is your prayer for yourself and others in response to what Jesus has done for us and who He is? Share any commitments/decisions you made in following Jesus.

Pray as a group.



# WEEKLY STUDY GUIDE



## **INFO AND REGISTER HERE**

Invite couples in your group to the May 9-10 Workshop or one in the fall.