

THE UPSIDE-DOWN KINGDOM

01 SEPTEMBER 2024



⁵The angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. ⁶He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. ⁷Then 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.”

— Matthew 28:5-7 (NIV)

And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins.

— 1 Corinthians 15:17 (NIV)



EVERY NATION
SINGAPORE

HOOK

 Start the conversation by saying...

For different reasons and motivations, people make difficult decisions. Mothers might sacrifice their own well-being for the sake of their children. Employees may work overtime without pay.

ENGAGE

 Go deeper with this...

What is an exchange you made that others might consider unreasonable?

LINK

 Connect to God's truth by sharing...

- In Jesus' upside-down kingdom, humility is honored and the first become last.
- The resurrection affirms the pattern of the kingdom by showing how death brought life and suffering brought salvation.
- Jesus exchanged His holiness for our sinfulness. He exchanged His perfection with our punishment.
- It's an exchange that doesn't make sense. But in this way, Jesus defeated the power of death and rose to life.
- Now, our sins are forgiven and our faith is not in vain (1 Corinthians 15:17). We can approach Jesus anytime. And we can partner with Him to do His work (Matthew 28:18-20).

PAUSE

 Pick a question and pray together...

Discuss Together (*pick one*)

- What are some things that you probably would still be doing if you hadn't encountered Jesus? How has your life changed since you met Him?
- What work of God are you actively involved in?

Pray Together (*pick one*)

- Thank God for His upside-down kingdom that you're part of! Pray to understand more clearly how to live according to His will.
- Thank God that your sins are forgiven. Ask Him what He is calling you to do as part of His great commission.

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¹⁸Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

¹⁹Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

— Matthew 28:18–20 (NIV)