

FAMILY ALIVE

FREE

NEW

RIGHTEOUS

FOUND

UNITED

# NO LONGER

## SERIES RESOURCE GUIDE

ALONE

DEAD

TRAPPED

LOST

SEPARATED

SLAVES

ORPHANS



WOODLANDS  
CHURCH



# NO LONGER

MARCH 15 - APRIL 05, 2026

EASTER SERIES

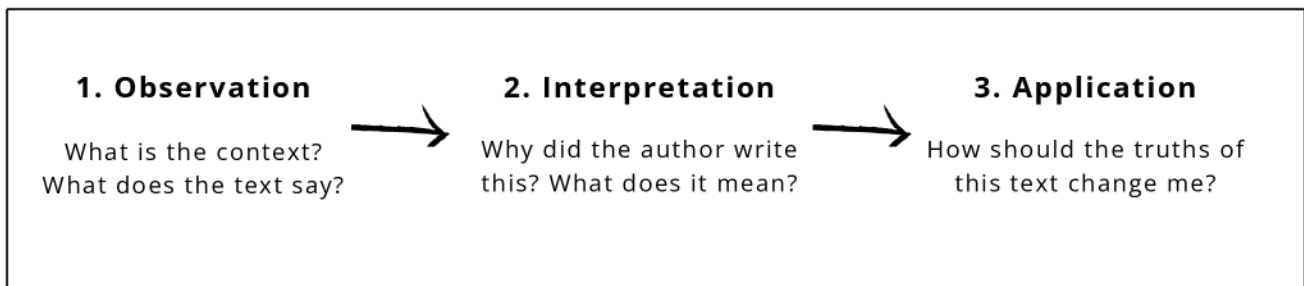
## SLOWLY PREPARING OUR HEARTS FOR THE CELEBRATION OF THE RESURRECTION

Easter is a beautifully unique season in the church calendar. While every day of our lives is marked by the hope of the resurrection, this season focuses and dwells on the finished and victorious work of Jesus in a powerful way. Over these four weeks - the three leading to Easter, and Easter Sunday itself - make time to rest in the beauty of Christ's work. Through the cross, and through the empty tomb, we are no longer...

### HOW TO USE THE WORKSHEETS

Every week of this four-week series focuses on a transformation brought about by Jesus' finished work. A main passage is listed for each week, and then the worksheets help you work through a study process through the content.

Don't be afraid to tear out the passage sheet, lay it next to the observation sheet, and mark them up with colored pencils and notes. Actively interact with the text! Take your time to make many good observations before moving onto interpretation. Remember, our interpretation will only be as thorough as our observation! And don't skip application.



**In every step, pray and meditate on God's Word.**

Spending time with God in Scripture is the goal. Slow down to marvel at who He is. Ask Him to press His truth into you. Prioritize your relationship with Him over finding the right answer or the perfect application.

**You change as you spend time with Him.**

The Bible is to be studied for a lifetime. Try not to get overwhelmed by what you don't know or understand. **Build your library of knowledge one day at a time.** You'll be amazed at how the connections start to come more easily and quickly over time.

God's Spirit is with you as a guide.

## **SERIES OVERVIEW**

We're reflecting on the life-changing power of the Resurrection throughout our sermon series, "No Longer". This victorious and exhortational journey dives deep into the profound transformation available to us through Christ. We will celebrate the incredible truth that we are no longer slaves to sin but are set free, no longer lost but found and restored, and no longer defined by our old selves but made completely new. From the stirring message of the Prodigal Son to the ultimate triumph of Easter morning, this series is a call to stop living like prisoners with keys in our pockets and to embrace the new master and purpose God has for every one of us.

As we study these passages ahead of time, expect to be both challenged and comforted as you explore foundational texts from Romans, Luke, 2 Corinthians, and Ephesians. You'll encounter powerful themes of grace as the power to say "no" to temptation, the relentless goodness of a Father who runs to meet us in our shame, and the reality of being a new creation where your past no longer defines your life. As you dive into these scriptures, look for the recurring "No Longer" declarations that shift our identity from strangers and aliens to fellow citizens and beloved children of God. Prepare your heart for a season of renewal that culminates in the glorious reality that in Jesus, we are no longer dead, but fully alive!

### **RESOURCES FOR THE SERMON SERIES**

A study Bible or the Bible 101 Resource Guide can aid you as you seek to answer the questions below. But don't take your thinking cap off! What other connections can you make, or questions you can ask? Think about the implications of where these passages fall in the overarching story of God.

### **QUESTION TO ASK ABOUT THE CONTEXT OF YOUR PASSAGE**

1. What kind of writing is this? (narrative, poetry, prose, wisdom, prophetic, apocalyptic, a letter)
2. Who wrote the book the passage is in, and when?
3. Where does this book take place?
4. To whom was it written?
5. Why was this book written?
6. How does the book fit into the overall storyline of the Bible?
7. What is the basic outline/storyline/overview of this book?
8. What are some repeated words, phrases, or ideas in the book? What are the key themes and ideas?

# SUNDAY, MARCH 15TH

## ROMANS 6:1-11

<sup>1</sup> What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? <sup>2</sup> By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? <sup>3</sup> Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? <sup>4</sup> We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

<sup>5</sup> For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. <sup>6</sup> We know that our old self<sub>(s)</sub> was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. <sup>7</sup> For one who has died has been set free<sub>(s)</sub> from sin. <sup>8</sup> Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. <sup>9</sup> We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. <sup>10</sup> For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. <sup>11</sup> So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.



## PART 1: OVERVIEW

Read the entire passage a few times.  
You can listen to it or read it out loud.

## PART 2: OBSERVATION; EPISTLE | WHAT DOES THE TEXT SAY?

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Circumstances</b></p> <p>What is the context of the passage, and what questions or tensions is the author addressing?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Terms</b></p> <p>What theological terms are being used or highlighted, and what do they mean?</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Themes</b></p> <p>What is the overall theme of the passages, and are there sub themes as well? Are there other passages in Scripture that address similar themes?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Causality</b></p> <p>What are the causes and connections that show cause or intention? What are the arguments that are being argued for or against; why?</p>

Q: What questions do you have after observing the themes, terms, and concept relationships in this passage?  
*Remember, every observation can be turned into a question.*

### **PART 3: INTERPRETATION | WHAT DOES IT MEAN?**

*Why did the author write this?*

1. How does the text and other Scriptures you know of answer your questions?

*Consult maps, Bible handbooks, commentaries, concordances, and study Bible notes as necessary to learn about places, customs and people.*

2. Write down any other notes, thoughts, or things you learned from this passage.

Summarize this passage in one sentence. What is the main idea or intent? What would you title this passage?

### **PART 4: APPLICATION | HOW SHOULD THE TRUTHS OF THIS TEXT CHANGE ME?**

1. What is your response to this passage?

3. Does this passage change the way you view God?

2. Are there examples of things you want to follow or avoid?

4. Is there a truth you want to thank God for or follow?

**5. Pray that God would enliven your spirit with these words and truths.**

### **PART 5: DISCUSS IN COMMUNITY**

Gather with your group or a few friends and discuss what you learned.

Listen to what others learned and ask each other questions.

# SUNDAY, MARCH 22

## LUKE 15:11-32

11 And he said, "There was a man who had two sons. 12 And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.' And he divided his property between them. 13 Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. 14 And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. 15 So he went and hired himself out to<sup>[a]</sup> one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. 16 And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

17 "But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! 18 I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. 19 I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants."' 20 And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. 21 And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'<sup>[b]</sup> 22 But the father said to his servants,<sup>[c]</sup> 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. 23 And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. 24 For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to celebrate.

25 "Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. 26 And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. 27 And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.' 28 But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, 29 but he answered his father, 'Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. 30 But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!' 31 And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. 32 It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'"



## PART 1: OVERVIEW

Read the entire passage a few times.

You can listen to it or read it out loud.

This passage is a parable, but we can treat it as a narrative. Remember, however, that parables are designed to teach one main point.

## PART 2: OBSERVATION; NARRATIVE | WHAT DOES THE TEXT SAY?

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>People</b></p> <p>Who are the characters? What are they like? What are they feeling, experiencing? What are their backgrounds?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Places</b></p> <p>Where is this passage taking place?</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Plot</b></p> <p>What is happening? What important events take place? How do the main characters respond to these events? How do the observers respond?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Connections</b></p> <p>Are there any repeating patterns in words, phrases or ideas? Biblical themes or symbols? Identify key words, figures of speech, + summaries that are in the text.</p>

Q: What questions do you have after observing the people, places, plot, and connections of the passage?  
*remember, every observation can be turned into a question*

### **PART 3: INTERPRETATION | WHAT DOES IT MEAN?**

*Why did the author write this?*

1. How does the text and other Scriptures you know of answer your questions?

*Consult maps, Bible handbooks, commentaries, concordances, and study Bible notes as necessary to learn about places, customs and people.*

2. Write down any other notes, thoughts, or things you learned from this passage.

Summarize this passage in one sentence. What is the main idea or intent? What would you title this passage?

### **PART 4: APPLICATION | HOW SHOULD THE TRUTHS OF THIS TEXT CHANGE ME?**

1. What is your response to this passage?

3. Does this passage change the way you view God?

2. Are there examples of things you want to follow or avoid?

4. Is there a truth you want to thank God for or follow?

**5. Pray that God would enliven your spirit with these words and truths.**

### **PART 5: DISCUSS IN COMMUNITY**

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Listen to what others learned and ask each other questions.

SUNDAY, MARCH 29  
2 CORINTHIANS 5:16-21

<sup>16</sup> From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. <sup>17</sup> Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. <sup>18a</sup> The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. <sup>18</sup> All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; <sup>19</sup> that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. <sup>20</sup> Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup> For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.



## PART 1: OVERVIEW

Read the entire passage a few times.  
You can listen to it or read it out loud.

## PART 2: OBSERVATION; EPISTLE | WHAT DOES THE TEXT SAY?

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Circumstances</b></p> <p>What is the context of the passage, and what questions or tensions is the author addressing?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Terms</b></p> <p>What theological terms are being used or highlighted, and what do they mean?</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Themes</b></p> <p>What is the overall theme of the passages, and are there sub themes as well? Are there other passages in Scripture that address similar themes?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Causality</b></p> <p>What are the causes and connections that show cause or intention? What are the arguments that are being argued for or against; why?</p>

Q: What questions do you have after observing the themes, terms, and concept relationships in this passage?  
*Remember, every observation can be turned into a question.*

### **PART 3: INTERPRETATION | WHAT DOES IT MEAN?**

*Why did the author write this?*

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# SUNDAY, APRIL 5

## EPHESIAN 2:1 - 10

<sup>1</sup> And you were dead in the trespasses and sins <sup>2</sup> in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience — <sup>3</sup> among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the flesh and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. <sup>4</sup> But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, <sup>5</sup> even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— <sup>6</sup> and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, <sup>7</sup> so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. <sup>8</sup> For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, <sup>9</sup> not a result of works, so that no one may boast. <sup>10</sup> For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.



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## PART 2: OBSERVATION; EPISTLE | WHAT DOES THE TEXT SAY?

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Circumstances</b></p> <p>What is the context of the passage, and what questions or tensions is the author addressing?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Terms</b></p> <p>What theological terms are being used or highlighted, and what do they mean?</p>
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## SERIES WRAP-UP

Take some time to reflect on the things God taught you as you studied these passages. Read through your past worksheets and answer the questions below.

1. What are the overarching themes found in these passages? What New/Old Testament passages also reflect these themes?
2. What are some important things God is teaching you?
3. Reflect on your application worksheets. How will you work on applying what you entered there?
4. How is Jesus connected to these themes?

