

April 7/24 - Read Acts 2:22-24, 32-33, 36-39 & Mark 1:4-15

1. Easter revolutionised our world with the hope of resurrection. How has Easter revolutionised your life personally?

Anyone can share their personal experiences with their journey of faith thus far.

2. Through the centuries, countless people responded to the events of Holy Week by repentance. What is repentance and how does it play out in real life?

Repentance in Hebrew means "turn around". It's directional. But in Greek, it means "change of mind". It's metaphysical. In context of Jesus' and Peter's message of the coming kingdom of God, repentance means surrendering and submitting to the new way of life, a new world that is replacing the old. Practically, repentance involves a change of behaviour and priorities, but it must be rooted in a change of heart and desire.

3. Another way of responding to Easter is by being baptised (the other side of the same coin alongside repentance). What is baptism and how does it impact your life?

Baptism is a ritual process of going through the waters of change (repentance). It was historically played out in the Jewish narratives of the Exodus through the Red Sea and the entry into the Promised Land through the Jordan River. In the Christian sense, baptism is going through the waters of Jesus' death and into His resurrected life. Baptism then officially changes a person to be no longer a citizen of the old world but a new one. An official status change means inheriting a certain set of rights and privileges, and also a new set of responsibilities.

4. How do we foster a community that promotes our members to be repentant and to be faithful with our baptismal vows?

Allow others to share practical ideas and strategies to promote communal accountability, encouragement, prayer and intercession, the safety and welcome of everyone in a church, and the openness for any questions to be asked.