Rejoicing in New Life

Easter celebrates the resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ and the promise of new life his resurrection brings. We see glimmers of this hope and promise of new life already in Isaiah. Join us as we remind ourselves of this promise made possible by Christ's victory over death and see just how far our celebration extends.

AWARENESS Before listening reflect on what you already know or understand about topics we'll cover in the episode.

- Why do Christians emphasize Christ's death, burial, and resurrection?
- What does Easter mean to you? Why?



LISTEN TO THE EPISODE: Rejoicing in New Life

READ Isaiah 53:9-12, Isaiah 54:1-5, Isaiah 55:10-13

REFLECTION After listening, consider the following questions:

- Is there an area in your life that needs the touch of Christ's resurrection for restoration and growth?
- When you read <u>Isaiah 54:1-5</u> and the prophet's encouragement to make a bigger tent, what New Testament passages or stories come to mind? How do these stories reflect or share the idea that we need to make room, because God's kingdom is bigger and more inclusive than we originally understood?
- Why do we resist "making our tent bigger," making room for more in the body of Christ? Is there one small change you could make in your life that would make your "tent" just a little bit bigger?
- Why does it matter that salvation is not just for humans, but that it includes all creation?
- What effect does/should an Easter faith have on your attitude and perspective? How can you live out your Easter faith daily in a way that will bring transformation to people, creation, and the community around you?

RELATED PASSAGES for further study

1 Corinthians 15:1-23, Luke 24:1-12, Acts 25-26

CONCLUSION

As you celebrate Easter and reflect on how Christ's resurrection brings transformation and new life, consider this prayer from The Worship Sourcebook:

God of our salvation,
You have restored us to life,
You have brought us back again into your love
By the triumphant death and resurrection of Christ:
Continue to heal us
As we go to live and work
In the power of your Spirit,
To your praise and glory. Amen.

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Printed on November 5, 2025

