

# Easter 2016

## Sermon Questions | 3.27.16

### Opener

What is your favorite Easter song/hymn and why? This Easter, are you feeling at peace, excited, overwhelmed or something else?

### Engaging with God in a Group

1. Look up overwhelmed in a thesaurus. What are the synonyms?
2. Pete mentioned how three stages of drowning correspond with the three stages of being overwhelmed. They are: holding your breath (trying to figure out a solution), thrashing about (getting frantic) and finally, inhaling water (give up). Could you relate to any of these stages when you've felt overwhelmed? If so, share about the experience with your group.
3. Go to [Bible Gateway](#) and do a search in NIV of the word overwhelmed. Divide the group in three. One group take the verses from Psalms, another group take the other Old Testament verses and the last group take the New Testament verses. What do you learn from the people in Scripture and being overwhelmed? Come back together and share what you learned with the whole group.

### Engaging with God Alone

Pete reminded us that there is another reaction to drowning besides the three given above: Reach up to Jesus.

1. When you are about to give up, you can reach up your hand for help from Jesus. He doesn't rescue you from every circumstance, but he always rescues you from the penalty of your sin. This is what Jesus has done and will do for you.
  - What he has done: From Romans 5:10 – For if, when we were God's enemies (Under sin, looking up) we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled (past tense, done!), shall we be saved through his life!
  - What he will Do: Circumstances of life can overwhelm you. Jesus is there. You are never alone in them. You can trust him to be in every one of your circumstances. Read [Romans 8:28-39](#). How does this apply to you?

2. Three stories were shared in the video during the service. In the midst of trial, Jesus was there for a cocaine Addict (overwhelmed with grace), in son's death (overwhelmed with support by the church) and in an epilepsy struggle (overwhelmed with love). In what ways do you recognize that Jesus is in your circumstance with you?

## **Closing Thoughts/Prayer**

Are you in an overwhelming circumstance? Jesus is with you. Are you at peace? Jesus is with you. Are you excited? Jesus is with you. Praise God, you are never alone. Thank God for this.