



WHAT'S NEXT?

Lent is over and we've now moved into the 50 days of Easter. Alleluia!

Here are 3 important lessons about Easter.

1. **New life is awesome and it's real.**

When you hold a baby in your arms, you can't help but smile. You easily see how awesome the baby is. There is a part of each of us that can only respond with wonder and awe. It might sound ridiculous, but no one doubts that a baby is real.

When it comes to new life in our faith, one big obstacle is doubting the fact that new life is even possible. The resurrection is real and the freedom Jesus can bring is just as real. God can really transform your life if you let him. The ultimate mark of the resurrection in our lives is transformation.

Transformation is awesome too, just like little babies. God wants to transform us. If you haven't experienced the awesome transformation of the resurrection, believe that's it is possible and ask God for it in your life.

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2. New life is fragile and needs nourishment.

We can't escape the reality that food is a basic necessity we will die without. Spiritually, we don't want our new life to wither and die because of lack of spiritual nourishment. You need to keep feeding yourself spiritually or death will come.

New spiritual growth is the fruit of time spent before God. Even Christ didn't resurrect instantly upon death. Don't expect that your transformation will happen instantly. Even if prayer can feel like it is routine or dry, God is there to feed us spiritually. If you stop praying and communicating with God, that new fruit can die pretty quickly in your life.

3. New life breeds new things.

God has done big things. God is doing big things. Easter wasn't our last Easter. God wants us to experience many new Easters in our lives. Don't miss out on what God is doing in your heart and in your life because you are too busy. The commandment given to the first Adam "be fruitful and multiply" is ultimately fulfilled by Jesus on the cross as his death brings about new life in our lives. If you want a new Easter in your life, you must continue to let God in and surrender your whole heart, mind and soul to the Lord.

Source: Andy Lesnefsky, Redeemedonline.com

WAYS TO KEEP EASTER ALIVE

Commit to one spiritual practice right now. For instance:

- Take 6 minutes of quiet time every day to walk through the Little White Book that was in the Easter weekend package.
- Read through one of the Gospels, one chapter per day.
- Pray one rosary each day, maybe while you wait or ride the bus or exercise.
- Experience the richness of the Psalms in Evening and Morning Prayer.
- Decide to attend one extra Mass each week.
 - ◆ Evening Mass, Tuesday at 7.
Evening Prayer at 6:45.
 - ◆ Morning Mass, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday at 8:30.
Rosary before Mass at 8 on Wednesday and Friday.
Morning Prayer at 8:15 on Thursday.

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How will you keep Easter alive in your life?

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