Week of April 21, 2019



These Digging Deeper questions can be used the week following the Sunday message. You can use these questions for personal growth and development, or as a guide for your family or Connect Group discussions.

Message Recap:

Read John 19:1-24, 28-37; 20:1-18

God's story is in 4 parts. Part 1, God created the world. Man sinned and built a wall. The result was death. (See Romans 3:23) Even so, God was still "all in." Christmas, the coming of Christ, is Part 2. God gave us all his glory. But we still struggled to accept him then, and still do today. Part 3 is the cross. It was here that everything changed through redemption. Jesus was the sacrifice of heaven. To be "all in," we must accept and acknowledge him through faith. The grave is Part 4. There is no other grave like the one in which Jesus was laid. This empty grave changed the lives of the eleven disciples and is still changing lives today. It's time to stop living in the grave. God created the world and gave us Jesus. Jesus died on the cross and rose from the grave so we could have life in him - all for love. Accept that life. Accept his love. Take down your wall and start living all in for God.

Pray

Dear God, thank you for your "all in" love. Thank you for Jesus, the cross, and the empty grave. Give us hearts to love you through faith and to be "all in" as we respond and love you. Amen

Getting Started

- The nation's second biggest candy selling holiday is Easter. What is your favorite Easter candy and why?
- The Creation Museum is located in Kentucky. What do you think would be the most interesting display of the creation of the world? What would it look like?

Digging Deeper

- 1. God is the creator, yet we often want more than the creator...we like to turn from God and then blame him for things gone wrong in our life. Where have you seen this in society and/or in your life?
- 2. How does Jesus's coming to earth demonstrate God's "all in" love? (See Isaiah 9:6-7)
- 3. Jesus is the sacrifice of heaven to be received by faith. We can choose a "Sunday school" faith path or an "all in" faith path. Compare and contract these two options.
- 4. The grave changes lives as seen in the lives of the eleven disciples. Describe how this change was evident in their lives.
- 5. We are the reason for God's story. Do you feel this infinite "all in" love given by God? Do you feel like you are a part of God's story? Why or why not?
- 6. If we accept Jesus through faith and respond with an "all in", what does that look like at home, school, work and in the world? What is the role of love in our being "all in"?

Living Jesus

God's love for us is "all in". He has demonstrated this love starting with creation, sending us his son Jesus, sacrificing Christ on the cross, and emptying the grave. Have you been resistant to this display of God's love for you? If so, you can choose to ask for forgiveness, welcome him into your life, and take the step to commit to being "all in" for him each and every day. Are you living "all in" for him? If not, it's time to step out of the darkness of the grave and live in the loving light of Jesus.

What's Your Story?

In consideration of what God has done for you, why would you hesitate in giving him your all? What will you do or have you done in response to being "all in" for God?

Share how God is working in your life at <u>SevernRunner.info/stories</u>.