



**Genesis 1:** In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. 2 The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

3 And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. 4 And God saw that the light was good.

In the rest of the first chapter of Genesis we see a pattern where God speaks and his word and will is done... and it was good.....and then with the creation of mankind it is very good.

**Ezekiel 37:27:** My dwelling place will be with them; I will be their God and they will be my people.

**Matthew 3:2** Repent for the Kingdom of God is at hand.

**Revelation 21:5** He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new."

**John 19:41** At the place where Jesus was crucified, there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb, in which no one had ever been laid. 42 Because it was the Jewish day of Preparation and since the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

**John 20:1** Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance.

**1 Peter 2:9** You are a chosen people, a royal priesthood.

## Icebreaker

Have you ever restored, renewed or gave new life to something? Share.

## Conversation Guide

1. Why does the resurrection matter? Kurt said, "It matters because everything is headed somewhere." From your worldview or point of view what is the direction history is heading? Are we heading towards restoration or destruction?
  - a. How did your understanding develop?
2. What evidence do you see of the path?

3. Look for places where it is clear that Heaven is not in control, where God's Kingdom does not reign and ask what steps could be taken to change that direction. Go make some Heaven on earth.
4. **For contemplatives:** read through the Ash Wednesday liturgy. **You can find it here.** <https://www.bcponline.org/SpecialDays/ashwed.html> Identify with Christ and his suffering. Understand that from that sacrifice is born a new unity with God, others, and creation