



Tough Love - Week 4

Message Discussion Questions

Introduction:

HAPPY EASTER!

This week Chance concludes a new series called 'Tough Love'. How do you feel about tough love? Tough love isn't easy to receive and it's not easy to give. Do you accept it or push back against it because it's too hard? Tough love is best given or received within relationship...it's necessary for growth. Tough love is advice not wanted, but needed. Jesus often shared tough love via parables.

For Week 4 we will be looking at Tough Love and the Toughest Love that Jesus displayed for us. How will you respond to that love? As we look at the Resurrection of Jesus and how His disciples responded, what should we do in response? If you have heard the Easter story many times, have you lost the zeal and excitement of the good news that He is risen? What do we do with the story of Easter?

Questions:

1. What did the women expect when they went to visit Jesus' tomb? Why were they going that morning and why were they going so early? Do you think it felt like a new day dawning to them? Matthew 28:1
2. Why did the Angel appear? What was the impact of the Angel appearing suddenly? How did the appearance of the Angel change things for the women? How did it change things for the guards? Matthew 28:2-4
3. Why did the Angel tell them to not be afraid? How does the Angel prove to the women that Jesus is risen? Why is it important that the Angel reminded them that this was what Jesus told them would happen? Matthew 28:5-6

4. How would the women have been sure that Jesus had been dead? Why would the choice of these women as the first witnesses that Jesus was risen from the dead have been surprising? Why are they the 'first evangelists'? What did they do that you can also do? Matthew 28:7
5. What two things did the women carry with them as they ran from the tomb? How important is it Jesus met them on the way and that they 'grasped his feet'? What did his presence do to their fear? Do you carry those same two things in your heart? Can Jesus meet you where you were? Matthew 28:8-10
6. Is it important that Jesus met his disciples where he said that he would? What was he focused on when he met with them, what assignment did he give to them? What promise did he give to them, and also to you? Matthew 28:18-20
7. How can you become righteous? What does the empty tomb mean to you? How does the Resurrection provide you with the opportunity to become the righteousness of God? 1 Corinthians 5:21

Key Takeaway: *What is the promise of Easter? How should the Resurrection impact your life every day and not just Easter Sunday? Are you ready to love God and love others? Can you trust him to provide what you need when you need it as you go and tell others the Good News?*

Summary:

- Discovering the empty tomb...
- Opening the tomb...
- Angelic announcement, He's no longer crucified... proves it
- Call to go and tell (first evangelist); women as witnesses...
- Running with fear and Joy...
- Jesus' call to go and tell, to make disciples... He is with us
- God made Him to be sin, so in Him we might become righteous