



## Discussion Guide for “Jesus Rose from the Dead and Ascended” *Believe Week 7*

Too often, religion is about a new program - seven steps to a deeper faith or four tips to transform your marriage. But the reason Jesus came to earth was because we can't improve ourselves. We're lost under the power of sin. The good news is that his resurrection offers us something better than self-improvement. We have been given the transforming power of the Holy Spirit. How can we learn to wait and notice where the Spirit is at work in our daily lives?

### Scriptures for Further Reading

[John 1:1-5](#)

[John 20:11-18](#)

[Romans 8:1-17](#)

[1 Corinthians 15](#)

[Revelation 1:9-17](#)

### Passage for Sacred Reading:

A sacred reading is a method of reading Scripture that invites God to speak to us through the text. If you have never done a sacred reading, here is [a simple step-by-step guide](#). This week's passage is [Romans 8:1-17](#).

### Questions for Discussion

1. Sue, a teacher, shared a story of an impossible student. Is there a situation in your life that feels similarly impossible – at work, in your family, a relationship?
2. What kinds of religious programs have you tried? Why do we humans like programs so much?
3. Review the echoes of Genesis 1-2 in John 1:1-5 and 20:11-18. Why does John frame his story of Jesus' resurrection in terms of creation? What does it mean to talk about Jesus' resurrection as the 8<sup>th</sup> day?
4. 1 Corinthians 15 is an extended meditation on the meaning of the resurrection. Read it out loud and make a list of the implications Jesus' resurrection has for us today.
5. What does it look like for you to wait and notice the Spirit's work in those difficult places in your life this week?