

UP, IN, OUT:

As you think about the resurrection of Jesus, would you consider this primarily an UP, IN, or OUT event? Explain your answer.

Do you have any UP, IN, or OUT events planned? Do you need to spend time getting everybody up to speed or details worked out?

OPEN:

What are your childhood memories of Easter?

DIG:

Three times in the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus warns his disciples about his coming arrest, death, and resurrection.

- Read Matthew 12:21-23, 17:22-23, and 20:17-19 and make a list of similarities and differences.
- What questions arise from your comparison of these three passages?

Jesus refers to Himself as the “Son of Man” in two of the three accounts.

- Why does He call Himself this?
- What is the significance of it?

In the Old Testament, the phrase, “son of man” is used to speak of regular humans in all but one case. In Daniel 7:13-14 it is used to name the divine being that stands in the presence of the Ancient of Days (God the Father).

- What do these two verses in Daniel tell us about the unique person known as the “Son of Man?”
- How do these verses point to Jesus?
- If these verses are describing Jesus, why would Jesus use this title in the passages that are speaking of his upcoming death?
- How would Jesus’ predicted resurrection fit in with this idea of the “Son of Man?”

Read Matthew’s account of the resurrection of Jesus from Matthew 28:1-10.

- What do you see here that supports the idea that Jesus is the “Son of Man?”

REFLECT:

How has your discussion today changed or supported the way you think about Jesus?

APPLY:

As a result of your discussion, what do you think God is calling you to start, stop, or do differently?

PRAY: