

EASTER SUNDAY- APRIL 5, 2026
Title- Believe: New Life, New Hope

Acts 16:30–34 He then brought them out and asked, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” They replied, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household.” Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all the others in his house. At that hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds; then immediately he and all his household were baptized. The jailer brought them into his house and set a meal before them; he was filled with joy because he had come to believe in God—he and his whole household.

Because Jesus is alive, anyone who truly believes in Him can experience new life and new hope—and one transformed life can impact an entire household.

1. The Resurrection Changes Everything

The message of Acts begins with one powerful truth: Jesus is alive. Because of the resurrection, God is still moving, still saving, and still transforming lives today. What happened in the first century is still happening now—people are being brought out of darkness into light.

Easter is not just about an empty tomb; it is about full, restored lives. This means no situation is too broken and no life is too far gone. Because Jesus rose again, new life is available and new hope is possible for you today.

2. A Desperate Question: The Cry for New Life

When the jailer experienced the earthquake, it was more than a physical shaking—it was a spiritual awakening. In desperation, he asked, “What must I do to be saved?” This question reveals a heart that realizes it cannot fix itself. This is where real change begins—when we stop relying on ourselves and recognize our need for God.

Many try to fill the emptiness in life with temporary things, but nothing satisfies. Eventually, life shakes us, and we are brought to a place of honesty. That moment is not the end—it is the beginning of new life and new hope.

3. A Simple Answer: The Power of Belief

Paul’s answer is clear and powerful: “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved.” This belief is not just knowing about Jesus, it is fully trusting Him, leaning your whole life on Him, and surrendering control.

It means making Jesus not just part of your life, but Lord over your life. Because Jesus rose from the grave, we can trust Him with our past, our present, and our future. Real belief is simple, but it is also life changing. When you truly believe, everything begins to shift.

4. A Transformed Life: The Evidence of New Hope

When the jailer believed, his life changed immediately. The man who once caused pain now showed compassion. The one who held chains now served others. This is what happens when resurrection power enters a life, old things pass away, and new life begins.

This transformation is not just internal; it becomes visible. It brings real joy, healing, and restoration. And it doesn't stop with one person—God uses one changed life to reach others.

5. Hope for Our Households

The jailer's story shows that when one person truly encounters Jesus, it can impact an entire family. His life became the example that opened the door for his household to believe. He didn't force faith, he lived it.

His consistency, humility, and love made God real to those around him. This challenges us to remember that our greatest ministry begins at home. Our life is our loudest sermon. God didn't just save you for you, He saved you for your family.

Closing Challenge

The resurrection is not just something to celebrate, it is something to respond to. The same question still stands: What must I do to be saved? The answer has not changed: believe in the Lord Jesus. But this belief requires more than words, it calls for surrender. If God is stirring your heart, don't ignore it. Step out in faith, leave the old life behind, and embrace the new life He offers.

Because the tomb is empty, your life does not have to stay the same, and your story could be the beginning of hope for your whole household.