## MARCH

Celebrate the Easter season with your small group.

Here are some simple ideas you can incorporate into your small group to celebrate the season together:

**Read a Lent Devotional.** Lent is a season of fasting, waiting, and reflecting. It prepares our hearts by casting out the excess and focusing solely on God. As we're convinced of his goodness and greatness over the 40 days of Lent, we are able to celebrate Easter in a new way: fully, freely, and fervently. Read <u>Lent For Everyone</u> by N.T. Wright available in the YouVersion Bible app. Group members can read these plans on their own and discuss what they're learning with the group each week.

**Spend a Meeting in Prayer.** One way to observe the waiting and seeking of Lent is to seek God through prayer. Set aside your study for a meeting and spend the time praying for one another, your church, your community, and our world. Focus the time however you'd like. Bring a list of prayer items or compile one when you're together. Focus on the needs of your church or community, or zero in on the needs in your group.

**Learn about Passover.** Unless you are of Jewish heritage, most Christians don't make the connection between Passover and Easter. Passover, though, is the meal that Jesus' disciples were eating at the Last Supper. Do some research on this Jewish holiday and discover how it connects with Easter. You'll be inspired when you see how much of the Passover symbolism points directly to Jesus.

**Do a Children's Activity.** Many small groups have children, but they usually aren't involved in the study or discussion time. This season, set aside time to be with the kids and do a fun activity that shares the message of Easter. A quick search on Pinterest reveals lots of ideas.

**Discuss New Life in Christ.** Easter is the perfect time to reflect on the new life we have in Christ. Look up verses that talk about how God is **making things new**. You might also spend time sharing stories of how God has given you new life in the last year.

**Celebrate Together.** Throw a party for your group that celebrates Christ's resurrection. Sing songs, make a cake, and share stories of how God has transformed and healed group members. Celebrate the power we have available to us as a result of Jesus' resurrection (Ephesians 1:19–20).