



God's Cosmic YES!

Matthew 28:1-7(NIV): "... at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb. ² There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³ His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. ⁴ The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men. ⁵ The angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. ⁶ He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. ⁷ Then go quickly and tell his disciples: 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see Him.'"

Hearing about Easter is news- Participating in Easter is New Life

Matthew 28:16-19(NIV): Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. ¹⁷ When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. ¹⁸ Then Jesus came to them and said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Therefore go and make disciples of all nations..."

INFLUENCE

Cristiano Ronaldo: 651 million followers.

Lionel Messi: 505 million followers.

Selena Gomez: 429 million followers

More books written about him than anyone in history.

More paintings inspired by him than any other figure.

More songs sung in his name than for anyone else.

More followers across time and geography than any movement ever.

More hospitals, schools, and charities launched in his name than any other person.

1- Easter is a SIGN

Today, we use signs to find our way.

In Scripture, God used signs to Prove His Message

The Message- "Let My People Go"

"I am God, and I approve this message"

The Radical First Three

All are created equal.

All are loved equally.

All deserve equal justice.

God's Cosmic, YES!

2- The Power of Easter Is in our Participation

A sign in the Bible is God's confirmation of a message.

✓ All are created equal

✓ All are loved equally

✓ All deserve equal justice

The sum of Jesus' message is Unconditional Positive Regard (UPR).

Romans 8:31(NIV): "If God is for us, who can be against us?"

Romans 8:35(NIV): "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?"

Luke 15:20(NIV): "But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him."

Luke 23:34(NIV): "Jesus said, 'Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.'"

Criticize them

Shame them
Guilt them
Label them
Threaten them
Control them
Compare them

What Changed Because of Jesus? The Early Church (1st–4th Century) and Its Radical Impact

- Cared for the sick during plagues → **birth of hospitals**
- Rescued abandoned infants → **beginning of orphan care**
- Fed the hungry and poor → **foundation of charity & welfare**
- Elevated the dignity of women → **countered patriarchy with inclusion**
- Honored slaves & outcasts as equals → **challenged social hierarchies**
- Created communities of learning → **seeds of universities**
- Opposed gladiator games → **valued life over entertainment**
- Practiced racial & ethnic unity → **most diverse spiritual movement**
- Buried the poor with dignity → **early social justice & mercy**

All without power, wealth, or status.

"The curious paradox is that when I accept others as they are, they tend to change." Carl Rogers

Reframe your most important conversations.

"If Stanton said I was a fool, then I must be one, for he is nearly always right." President Abraham Lincoln

"There lies the most perfect ruler of men the world has ever seen." Edwin Stanton

3- You can't fully receive what you're unwilling to give
(Your brain believes what it practices)

Transference- the way we treat others ends up shaping how we see ourselves

All scriptures referenced are from the New International Version (NIV) translation of the Bible unless otherwise indicated.