**Small Group Discussion**

**Opening Discussion:** There were a number of different ways people responded to the resurrection: doubt, fear, worship, silence, confusion, and sadness. If you were there when Jesus rose again, what kind of response would you have?

**Read 1 Corinthians 15:14-17**

Why do you think the resurrection is so essential to our Christian faith and message?

We often talk about how Jesus died for our sins, but we don’t talk as much about how Jesus rose again to save us from our sins. How can our mention about the resurrection be a part of our witness?

**Read Matthew 28:1-9**

Both the women and solders responded to these events with fear, but once the woman realized it was Jesus, their fear was transformed into worship. Yet even after they left Jesus, they were still terrified. Mark 16:8 says “Trembling and bewildered, the women went out and fled from the tomb. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid.”

We often think of the resurrection as a time for celebration. He is risen! Do you find it strange that fear is one of the common expressions during the resurrection?

What do you think was so terrifying about this experience? Why do you think they left their time with Jesus still terrified?

Do you think it’s healthy to have a fear of God? How does a fear of God impact the way you view worship?