

## **Easter - Seeing & Believing**

1. Jesus is the only founder of a major religion, who claimed to be God. Many other religious leaders such as Buddha, claimed to know a lot about God and to point the way to God. **Discuss**
2. The crucifixion of Jesus Christ would have been long forgotten if Jesus had not been resurrected from the dead. His resurrection assures believers that one day, they too will rise from the dead. **What is the main evidence that Jesus did rise from the dead?**
3. C.S. Lewis, was a professor at Cambridge University. He was an atheist, a cynic and had one of the most brilliant minds of the 20<sup>th</sup> cent. He was challenged by a friend to examine the claims of Jesus and to study the NT. He did, and he concluded that what it said was true and he became a believer. **What are the main objections that non believers have to the Christian faith?**
4. Some people believe easily. Some believe slowly. Then there are those who demand proof. Which of these Easter eyewitnesses is most like you? The two Mary's? Peter? or Thomas? (Luke 24:1-12)
5. The essential difference between Christians and followers of Judaism is that Christians believe that Jesus was the promised Messiah, while Jews are still waiting for their Messiah. Discuss
6. Concerning Old Testament prophecy a follower of Judaism said "*that instead of firing an arrow at a target & hitting the bulls eye, Christians found the arrows & drew a target around them*". Why would they think like that?
7. Examine the Messianic prophecies in Isaiah 53 and Daniel 9:25-26. How were these fulfilled in Christ? Why is it unlikely that they could apply to anyone else?
8. Easter is a time of the year when spiritual discussions with non believers are more likely to take place. Share with the group an interesting discussion that you had recently.
- 9. Spend some time in prayer.** Thank Jesus for dying to take the punishment for our sin, and pray for and encourage each other.