



## EXPLORE THE BIBLE.

Session 5: Believe!

Suggested Week of Use: March 31, 2024

Core Passage: John 20:1-17

---

### News Story Summary

The Christian youth organization Christian Union plans to complete an eight-week tour of elite college campuses this spring to expose students to the radical nature of Jesus. The campaign, called “Jesus Disrupts,” is scheduled to take place at Brown University, Columbia University, Cornell University, Dartmouth College, Harvard University, the University of Pennsylvania, Princeton University, Yale University, and Stanford University. This year’s campaign will mark Christian Union’s third major evangelistic event and includes a significantly broadened outreach focus. According to founder and president Matt Bennett, the goal is to reach 75,000 students with the understanding that these students have the potential to become national and global leaders. Bennett pointed toward Jesus’s outreach to both “the downtrodden and the influential,” noting that many students on these influential campuses need to hear the radical message of the gospel.

For more about this story, search “Christian Union Jesus Disrupts.”

### Engage

To supplement the Engage activities, share the story of the planned evangelistic outreach to prominent college campuses by Christian Union. Highlight the focus on Ivy League schools, along with Stanford. Encourage adults to suggest potential obstacles the group might face sharing the gospel in those settings. Ask: *What are some elements of the Christian faith that college students, especially in these rigorous academic contexts, might struggle to embrace?* Note that Jesus’s deity and His resurrection from the dead might be near the top of the list. Explain that questions about Jesus’s death and resurrection have been a sticking point for many people through the centuries, including some who became Jesus’s most loyal followers. Share that today’s Easter session helps us know why we can believe the Gospel accounts are true.

### Challenge

To supplement the Challenge activities, refer back to the Jesus Disrupts campaign. Ask: *What prompted you to place your faith in Jesus?* Note that examining the claims of Christ is an important opportunity for unbelievers, and believers have a responsibility to help them walk through that process. Stress that if anyone in the group has not accepted Christ, you would welcome the opportunity to share more. Ask: *As a follower of Jesus, would you be willing to participate in an evangelistic campaign similar to Jesus Disrupts? Why or why not?* Challenge the group to consider ways they can encourage people they know to examine the truths of Jesus and to embrace the message of Easter.