

**Introduction:**

Easter is a high-water mark on the Christian calendar and as followers of Jesus, we have a responsibility to do more than celebrate and move on. If we are going to be full-time, sold-out Christians, we have to find a way to live each day as a response to the Good News of Easter. We have to *Awaken* to a new way of life.

**Scripture:**

Ephesians 2:18 - "Now all of us can come to the Father through the same Holy Spirit because of what Christ has done for us."

Matthew 5:9 — "God blesses those who work for peace, for they will be called the children of God."

**Discussion Questions:**

1. Do you know anyone who is extremely opinionated about Pepsi vs. Coke? Are you that way about anything?
2. How should our relationships & daily interactions with other people be affected by the fact that we all come to God "through the same Holy Spirit"?
3. What does it mean to "work for peace"?
4. How would your worldview have to shift for you to see the world as Jesus sees it?
5. In spite of the fact that Jesus died for everyone, we have a human tendency to build walls, to point fingers, and to categorize; these tendencies are entertaining in the context of soda wars, but are counterproductive when it comes to reaching people for Jesus. What is our responsibility as followers of Jesus to "tear down walls" & promote unity?
  - How have we, as Christians, actually "built walls" & caused division?
  - How have you personally contributed to division?
6. How would the perception of the church change if we became experts at building community & promoting unity?

**Take the Next Step:**

Unity doesn't always mean agreement. Community doesn't mean conformity. How can you live out the message of Easter and reach out to someone different from you this week?