

# GO DEEPER: WHEN EVERYTHING SEEMS SEALED SHUT

A Reflection Guide for "The Two Words That Changed Everything: From the Crucifixion to the Commission"

## INTRODUCTION

In this episode of Making Sense of Faith, Adam Hamilton takes us behind the Easter sermon to explore the details that didn't make it into the pulpit — but are too important to miss. From a torn curtain to a sealed tomb to two words that changed history, this episode invites us to sit with the full weight of the Easter story and consider what it means for our lives today. Use this guide to go deeper into what you heard and explore how these ancient events speak to your own journey.

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## 3 REFLECTION QUESTIONS

Take a moment to consider what stood out to you most from this episode:

1. Adam describes Holy Saturday as the day the religious leaders did everything they could to keep Jesus in the tomb — sealing it, guarding it, trying to contain the uncontainable. Where in your own life does it feel like hope is sealed shut right now? What would it mean to believe that hope can't be contained?
  2. Joseph of Arimathea was a secret follower of Jesus who finally found the courage to step forward after the crucifixion. What has held you back from acting on something you believe deeply? What might help you find that courage?
  3. Jesus' final words to his disciples weren't words of comfort — they were a commission. "Therefore, go." How do you respond to the idea that Easter isn't just something to receive, but something to act on?
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## 2 KEY INSIGHTS

### 1. The curtain was torn — not patched

*"Christ has opened a way for us to enter into God's throne room, the Holy of Holies."*

**Question:** What barriers between yourself and God feel most real to you right now?

**Reflection:** The curtain wasn't repaired — it was removed. What would it look like to approach God today as if nothing stood between you?

## 2. They tried to keep him in the tomb

*"There was not a tomb in the world that could imprison the risen Christ."*

**Question:** What in your life have you been trying to keep sealed away — grief, doubt, a hard question, a calling you're afraid of?

**Reflection:** The very people who tried hardest to prevent the resurrection ended up becoming witnesses to it. What might it look like to stop sealing something off and let it breathe?

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# 1 PRACTICE EXERCISE

## The Commission Inventory

Find a quiet space and set aside 10 minutes for this exercise.

Take a piece of paper and draw a line down the middle. On the left side, write "What I've received" — list the things in your life you're grateful for: relationships, experiences, moments of grace, second chances. On the right side, write "Where I'm sent" — based on what you've received, where might you be called to go? Who might need what you've been given?

Sit with both sides for a few minutes. Notice where they connect.

The Great Commission wasn't just for the eleven disciples on that hillside. It was for anyone who has experienced something worth sharing. You don't have to have it all figured out. You just have to go.

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## QUOTES TO CONSIDER

*"There was not a tomb in the world that could imprison the risen Christ."*

*"Christ has opened a way for us to enter into God's throne room, the Holy of Holies."*

*"I've received all authority in heaven and on earth. Therefore, go."*

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## CLOSING REFLECTION

The Easter story doesn't end at the empty tomb — it begins there. From the torn curtain to the sealed stone to the hillside in Galilee, the whole arc of the story moves in one direction: outward. Toward the world. Toward people who haven't heard yet. Toward a life that is not just changed, but sent. As you close this time of reflection, consider one small step you might take this week in response to the two words that changed everything. Not a grand gesture — just one step. Therefore, go.

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*This reflection guide was created to accompany the Making Sense of Faith podcast episode "The Two Words That Changed Everything: From the Crucifixion to the Commission." For more resources like this, visit [makingsenseoffaith.com](http://makingsenseoffaith.com).*