



Dear Pastors and Leaders of EFC-ER,

Presence, power, and peace are the operative words that make Easter more than just another secular holiday. These are the words that give us hope in the midst of a very turbulent world that steals our hope and seems a little more discouraging each day. If you are discouraged by the news that you hear each day, I remind you that God has good news for you at Easter. The presence and power of the Holy Spirit of God brought Jesus from the grave and gave His followers peace to overcome the tests and trials of life.

The crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus are days the world has not forgotten and never will. For many the crucifixion was a day of horror and pain. Some thought they had defeated a great enemy. Others felt all hope had been lost, emotions much like we feel in our circumstances today. However, don't ever forget that just three days after being nailed to a cross Jesus Christ rose from the grave. Out of great tragedy and pain came the greatest triumph and victory ever! *Victory over death and the grave!*

So although we live in a world that suffers from unstable economies, uncertain energy policies, and religious turmoil, to name a few of our challenges, there is hope. Jesus said, ***"Because I live you shall live also."*** Jesus Christ overcame all odds and rose from the grave. Because He is alive He can take our adversities and turn them into victories, but we must turn to Him. The same presence and power that brought Jesus from the grave is available to you today and will give you the same peace it brought to His followers that very first Easter.

I am praying that each of you will experience Easter miracles this year as you celebrate the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. May His peace and power provide all you need and then some.

Today I am asking each of you to have your church receive an Easter Offering to help us raise \$50,000 for the EFC-ER Great Commission Budget. Together we can do this. If our larger churches raise \$3,000+, our medium churches raise \$1,000 – \$2,000, and our smaller churches raise \$200 to \$500, we can go over the top. As you know, the biggest portion of this offering will go to support the salaries of EFC-ER missionaries currently serving around the world.

Please join us in this effort to support our missionaries! One hundred percent participation will put us over the top. This offering helps us fulfill the Great Commission and honors our risen Savior.

Blessings,
Tom

PS – A flyer is attached that you can use for printed promotion of the Easter Offering. Julia will send a PowerPoint next week that can be used for additional promotion.