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Easter Weekend

Ecclesiastes 4:9-10

Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up!

If you wanted to create an environment to churn out really angsty people, we've done it. [Our children are] in a cauldron of stimulus they can't get away from, or don't want to get away from, or don't know how to get away from.

-Janis Whitlock, Director, Cornell Research Program on Self-Injury and Recovery

I see everyone putting up posts about their family, they look so happy and everyone's smiling, everything is so perfect and rosy. I kind of feel less than.

-Neil Heyland, Time, November 7, 2016

Technology purposes itself as the architect of our intimacies. ...It suggests substitutes that put the real on the run . . . Technology is seductive when what it offers meets our human vulnerabilities. And as it turns out, we are very vulnerable indeed. We are lonely but fearful of intimacy. Digital connections . . . offer the illusion of companionship without the demands of friendship. Our networked life allows us to hide from each other, even as we are tethered to each other. We'd rather text than talk.

-Sherry Turkle, Alone Together, Introduction

Hebrews 4:14-16

Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

1 Corinthians 15:3-4

For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures,

Matthew 27:50-51

And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice and yielded up his spirit. And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And the earth shook, and the rocks were split.

Through Jesus we have free and open access to God.

1 Timothy 2:5

For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself a ransom for all....

Have you trusted in Jesus alone as the only way to have a relationship with the living God?

John 14:6

I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

Whatever you are going through...Jesus understands.

Hebrews 4:15

For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin.

Do you know what it is like to be physically exhausted?

Jesus understands.

Do you know what it's like to be pressured to give in?

Jesus understands.

Have you ever experienced the indescribable pain of losing someone you love?

Jesus understands.

Do you know what it is like to dread tomorrow?

Jesus understands.

Have you ever experienced unanswered prayer?

Jesus understands.

Have you ever felt alone?

Jesus understands.

Jesus understands and he can do something about our situation. He died for our sins and rose from the dead.

Hebrew 4:16

Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Today is the day to begin a relationship with Jesus.