

MAKE YOUR DAY COUNT WITH

LINDSAY

ROBERTS

The Joy of Easter

Melissa Lee

Preview of...

10 STEPS
TO BECOMING
Fabulous

RESURRECTING

HOPES &
Dreams

Lindsay Roberts

What's Good
About
Good Friday?

Richard Roberts

EASTER

Brunch Recipes

from the MYDC Kitchen



For God
so loved the world

THAT HE GAVE HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN SON, THAT
WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM SHOULD NOT PERISH
BUT HAVE EVERLASTING LIFE.

FOR GOD DID NOT SEND HIS SON INTO THE
WORLD TO CONDEMN THE WORLD,
BUT THAT THE WORLD THROUGH HIM
MIGHT BE SAVED.



JOHN 3:16-17 NKJV

As we approach Resurrection week and the hope of new life through Jesus Christ, there is a sense of renewal and hope in the air—a reminder that even in the middle of life's challenges, there is always the promise of new beginnings and fresh opportunities. Don't miss Richard's message, *"What's Good about Good Friday"* to understand the price Jesus paid on the cross for us.

In these pages, we dive into what it means to breathe life back into our hopes and dreams. From the insightful reflections on resurrecting hopes and dreams to the empowering journey of self-discovery outlined in *"10 Steps to Becoming Fabulous,"* each article invites us to reflect on our own lives and consider how we can cultivate an attitude of hope and optimism.

Also, Melissa has an article about the *Joy of Easter!* As you journey through these pages, be reminded of the boundless possibilities that await when we choose to embrace all that God has for us.

It is my prayer that you are inspired and uplifted by these stories and biblical truths. May you be filled with a renewed sense of hope and purpose, knowing that God is always with you, guiding you every step of the way.

I pray that you are blessed abundantly and that your dreams take flight like never before. And I want to remind you of something God has been telling me to repeat and share, and that is "you are worth more than you think".

With love and blessings,





NEWS-Views

With God, nothing is impossible!

Migraine healed!

I was sitting at my computer at work and began to get signs of the beginning of a migraine. I hadn't had them for awhile and I had no more sick days to use at work. I looked up the Richard Roberts *Healing Network* and I had barely downloaded the app to my tablet when I heard Richard's voice. It was a video from an older service. The migraine immediately stopped and I could keep working! Praise God! Thank you for *The Healing Network*!

Catherine from Connecticut

Visit TheHealingNetwork.com or you can download THE HEALING NETWORK app from the Apple Store or Google Play. With this app, you can watch all our faith-building programs on your phone!

Shoulder pain healed

Marie from California reported that her daughter hurt her shoulder in a car accident and had severe pain constantly. Marie wrote to Richard Roberts for prayer. Richard sent a video prayer for her daughter's healing. When she played the video prayer, the pain left and she has been pain free ever since! Praise God!



No Cancer!

We recently called for prayer because a member of my family needed a liver transplant. There were complications such as a rare blood type, so a donor needed to be a perfect match. The prayer partner from the *Abundant Life Prayer Group* said a perfect prayer with care and love. A month later, my family member had a new liver with a perfect match donor! We are so thankful to you Richard, your prayer team, to Father God for hearing our prayers, and the Lord Jesus for His healing power as our beloved Savior.

Susie on Facebook

If you would like prayer, you can call our Abundant Life Prayer Group at 918-495-7777 or go online: RichardRoberts.org/prayer



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10 STEPS
— TO BECOMING —
Fabulous

BY LINDSAY ROBERTS

fab · u · lous /'fabyələs/ adjective

1. amazingly good; wonderful.

in the quiet moments of reflection, in the middle of the hustle and bustle of our daily lives, there lies a tugging in our hearts—a gentle reminder of the extraordinary beings we were created to be. Each of us, intricately woven together by the hands of a loving Creator, was created to be fabulous—amazingly good; wonderful.

God hand-crafted us, He knows every hair on our head and designed us with purpose. If God knows the number of hairs on our head, that means to me, we are amazingly good. You are a wonderful work in Christ. This is empowering. I want this to take root in your heart, and that begins with a single step—a step of faith, and determination to embrace the fullness of who you are in Christ.

As we embark on this journey to becoming fabulous, we are reminded of the words of Psalm 139:14, which declare, "*I praise you*

(Continued on next page.)



*...we are
loved
beyond
measure,
cherished
beyond
compare, and
called to
live a life of
purpose and
significance.*

because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well." These words resonate with timeless truth, inviting us to embrace our call to step into the fullness of all that God has designed for us.

At the heart of our journey lies the recognition of our identity in Christ—a truth that sets us free from worry, or doubt, and or fear. When we anchor our identity in Him, we can discover a newfound sense of purpose, confidence, and strength to navigate any issues we may encounter. But the journey doesn't end there. It's a continuous process of growth, transformation, and renewal—a journey that invites us to cultivate self-care, extend kindness and compassion to others, and dare to dream big dreams that align with God's purpose for our lives.

As we get quiet before the Lord, we can pause to listen to the still, small voice of the Holy Spirit whispering words of love and affirmation to our hearts, and we are reminded of our inherent worth and value in God's eyes. In Him we are are loved beyond measure, cherished beyond compare, and called to live a life of purpose and significance.

As you choose to truly embrace how fabulous you are in Christ, I pray you are inspired to know that you are fearfully and wonderfully made. And I pray you know the transformative power of faith, hope, and love, and walk in the fullness of God's grace and truth.

10 STEPS TO BECOMING

Fabulous

Lindsay Roberts

Pre-order Lindsay's new booklet today! This will be available in May. Go to [RichardRoberts.org/bookstore](https://richardroberts.org/bookstore)!

WHAT'S GOOD ABOUT GOOD FRIDAY?


BY RICHARD ROBERTS

AT THE END OF EVERY WORK WEEK, YOU'RE APT TO HEAR SOMEONE SAY, "THANK GOD, IT'S FRIDAY!" SOME PEOPLE EVEN START OUT ON MONDAY THINKING, IF I CAN JUST MAKE IT TO FRIDAY.

There's one Friday that's better than all the rest. It's the Friday before Resurrection Sunday...and it's come to be known as Good Friday. **It didn't look very good!** Good Friday was the day when Jesus' hands and feet were nailed to a cross. It's the day when our Lord was beaten beyond recognition, and had a spear thrust into His side. It's the day when Jesus died on a cross.

What we call Good Friday looked like a terrible day for Jesus and His disciples. It was a day when the air turned cold and the sky turned black at noonday. It was a day when hopes for the future were dashed to the ground. It looked like the day to end all days!

In Jesus' time of greatest need, His disciples ran away and deserted Him, afraid to even acknowledge knowing who He was. So, what's so good about Good



Friday? The fact that Jesus went to the Cross in our place. The One who *knew no sin became sin for us* so that, through the power of

His resurrection, we could be set free from sin's evil power (2 Corinthians 5:21). He took the stripes on His back...so that we could be healed from sickness and disease (1 Peter 2:24). When you understand the purpose for Jesus' dying on the Cross, there's plenty that's good about Good Friday!

Sunday was on its way! The Cross was a terrible, agonizing experience for the Lord. But Jesus knew that if He didn't go to the Cross, there would be no salvation for all mankind. There would be no healing for you and me. There would be no miracles. There would be no Resurrection. The miraculous power of the Cross would never take place.

Jesus endured the Cross for a reason—because of the joy that was set before Him, Hebrews 12:2 tells us—because He knew Resurrection Sunday was coming!

On Sunday morning, Jesus burst forth from the grave, breaking the bonds and power of death. Through His death and resurrection, He had defeated satan and his power over our lives once and for all. Colossians 2:15 NLT says, God disarmed the evil

rulers and authorities. He shamed them publicly by his victory over them on the cross of Christ.

And because Jesus lives, we can live also. Through the power of His resurrection, we can have the abundant life that He wants us to have by receiving Him into our lives as our Lord and Savior.

Jesus came for you. If you've never given your heart to Jesus and asked Him to take control of your life, I invite you to do so now.

Romans 10:9 NLT says, *If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.*

Just pray this simple prayer:

Lord, I repent of my sins, and I ask You to forgive me. Come into my heart and be my Lord and Savior. I give You my life, and I ask You to make it into something miraculous. Thank You for sending Your Son, Jesus Christ, to die for me. And most of all, thank You for saving me and giving me eternal life with You. In Jesus' name. Amen.

If you prayed that prayer from your heart, you are now a new creation in Christ. A new life has begun! (2 Corinthians 5:17 NLT).

You are what's so good about Good Friday!

A close-up photograph of a person's hands holding a large, vibrant bouquet of flowers. The person is wearing a blue and white patterned top. The bouquet includes a large orange rose, a pink daisy, a purple hydrangea, and several purple pansies. The background is softly blurred, showing more of the person and the flowers.

RESURRE

Hopes &

BY LINDSAY ROBERTS

In Oklahoma, we experience some ice and cold winters with snow and lots of frost on the lawns. But, as the frost melts away and the grass and flowers begin to spring back to life from their winter rest, I notice how nature can mirror the rhythm of our life—circles of dormancy followed by bursts of vibrant growth. In it, I find echoes of my own walk through life—moments when dreams seemed dormant, and hopes appeared to be lost.

But, scripture teaches us that our God is a God of resurrection—the divine architect of new beginnings and second chances. In Ezekiel 37, the prophet Ezekiel witnesses the miraculous resurrection of dry bones, a powerful metaphor for the restoration of their nation and, by extension, the redemption of our own broken dreams and aspirations. Just as God breathed life into those bones, He longs to breathe



ECTING

& Dreams

...our God is a God
of **resurrection**—

The divine architect of
new beginnings and
second chances.

life into our dormant hopes and
dreams by infusing them with His
Spirit.

I believe there is always a measure of quiet things hidden in our hearts that we put on the shelf for another day. But, for me, to bring them to the forefront requires that by my faith, I introduce those "on the shelf" things to the promise of God's faithfulness. In Isaiah 43:19, the Lord declares, "*Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.*" Even in the middle of life's "on the shelf" or even wilderness experiences, because of this scripture, I see that God is at work, preparing the soil for new growth and orchestrating a time of renewed hopes and dreams in our lives.

Perhaps, like the disciples on
that first Easter morning, we find

(Continued on next page.)



...He who conquered the
grave *is able to resurrect
our lives.*

ourselves questioning our hopes and dreams, even wrestling with doubt or frustration. Yet, just as the stone was rolled away to reveal the risen Savior, so too does God roll away the barriers that seem to block our hopes and dreams. In Luke 24:6-7, the angels proclaim, *"He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be crucified and on the third day rise."* In the empty tomb, we find not only the assurance of Christ's victory over death but also the promise of our hopes and dreams redeemed by the power of His love.

In Romans 6:4, Paul reminds us, *"...just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life."*

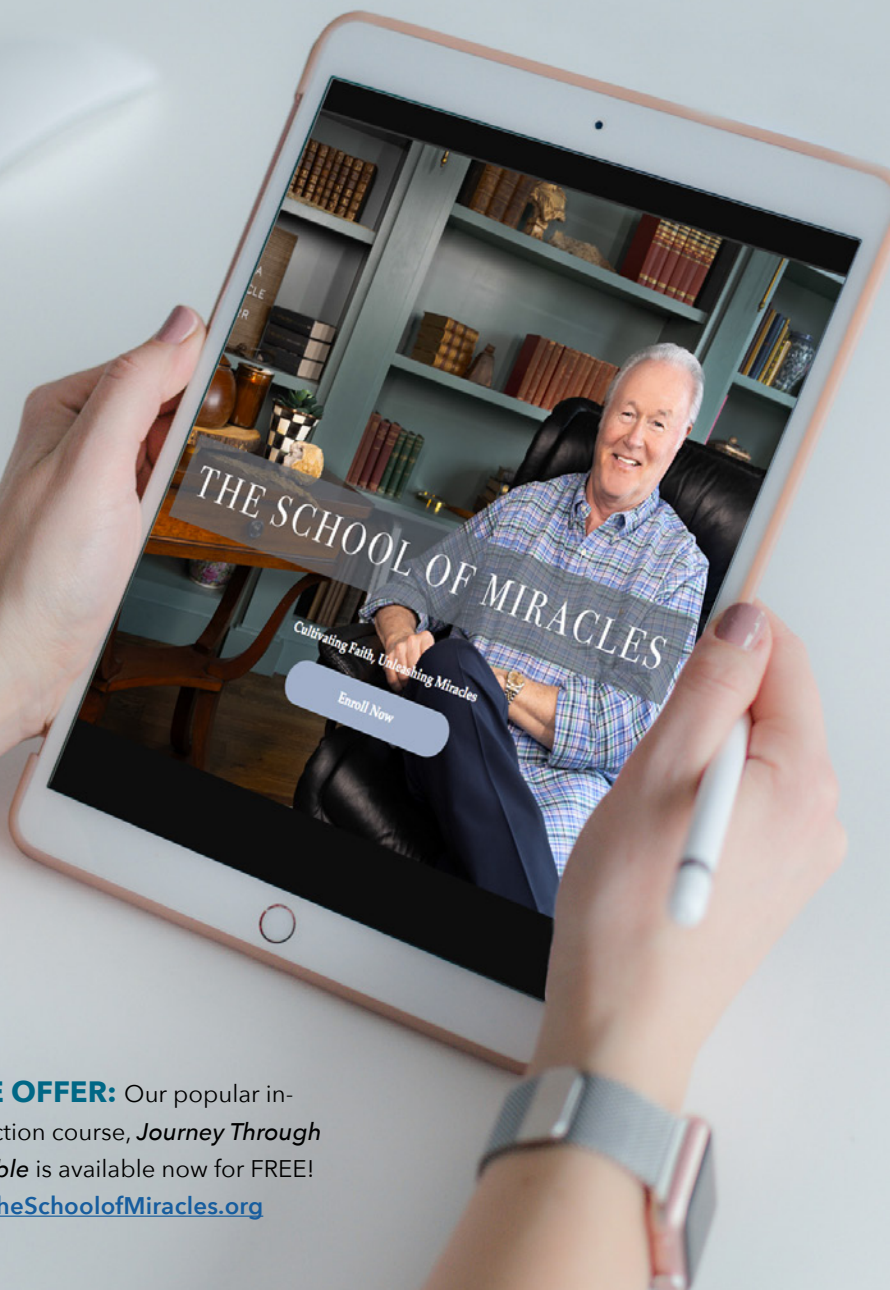
With each passing day, God invites us to surrender any uncertainty or loss or unpredictable circumstances and embrace the abundant life He offers—a life characterized by hope, purpose, and the fulfillment of our deepest dreams.

As we approach this season of resurrection, I pray we are reminded of God's unfailing love and His power to breathe life into our hopes and dreams and even into our souls—our mind, will and emotions. I encourage you to dream big, trusting that Jesus, the One who conquered the grave, is able to resurrect or bring to the newness of life every single piece of our hopes and dreams in every area of our lives. And as you do, have gratitude for the ultimate gift of redemption—the promise of eternal life with our risen Savior.

And remember, *He who began a good work in us will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus* (Philippians 1:6).

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EASTER BRUNCH CUPCAKES

INGREDIENTS:

1 box cake mix (chocolate, white, or yellow)

Ready-made cake icing

Topping options:
Easter candy decorations of
your choice

DIRECTIONS

Prepare cake mix according to directions; pour mix into a muffin pan lined with cupcake holders and bake.

Once cupcakes have cooled, frost tops with ready-made icing.

Add decorative toppings like sprinkles, nuts, shredded coconut, or candy of your choice.

STUFFED EGGS

INGREDIENTS

6 boiled, then cooled, peeled and rinsed eggs. (yields 12 halves.)

2 Tbsp. mayonnaise

1 tsp. sugar or to taste

1 tsp. mustard

1 Tbsp. finely chopped onion

1 Tbsp. finely chopped celery

Salt and pepper to taste

1/4 tsp. paprika, or to taste

Option: 3 tsp. sweet pickle relish

Topping option: chopped chives

DIRECTIONS

Cut boiled, peeled, cooled eggs in half.

Remove solid yolks and reserve the halved whites.

Mash yolks with fork and add remaining ingredients. Pipe or stuff the filling into egg white halves.





EMBRACING THE *Joy of Easter*

A Recipe for Traditions and Reflections

BY MELISSA LEE

As the season of Easter approaches, it's a time for both celebration and contemplation, a time to reflect on the deeper meaning of this joyous occasion while embracing cherished family traditions. In the midst of colorful Easter egg hunts and delightful baskets filled with treats, let's remember the true essence of this holiday – a celebration of renewal, hope, and the triumph of light over darkness.

Easter Sunday was a celebration I always looked forward to as a young girl. My granny would host a large gathering of aunts, uncles, and cousins, making it a special occasion marked by the presence of family. Granny was known for setting a lovely table and serving delicious meals that were meticulously planned out. Lilies and a cross graced our table spread, and there was always discussion of the changing of seasons, and the Son of God who is our true light and guiding compass.





As I became a mother and started my own home, incorporating the spirit of Easter into our family gatherings was a thoughtful priority. I always looked forward to pulling out the décor we had collected over the years and emphasized the life-giving sacrifice of our Lord through the Easter story. It is still a special time for our family.



As my children have grown and we have little grandchildren bustling about, we gather around the table not only to share delicious meals but to continue the traditions and stories of faith and gratitude that began at Granny's table. As we indulge in festive treats, we're reminded of the sweetness of God's grace and the abundance of His blessings—may our focus be on the hope and salvation of Jesus in His sacrifice.

Scripture reminds us that *"He is risen!"* (Matthew 28:6) – a declaration that fills our hearts with hope and joy. This Easter, we not only rejoice in the resurrection of Christ but also in the love and unity that bind us together as a family.

As we join together in our favorite Easter traditions, whether it's decorating eggs or baking delicious treats, we will take a moment to reflect on the significance of this season. Just as the Easter egg symbolizes new life and rebirth, I pray your celebrations, like ours, will be a testament to the eternal promise of hope and redemption.

So, as you prepare your own Easter festivities, I encourage you to find joy in the company of loved ones, delight in the simple pleasures of tradition, and bask in the light of God's everlasting love.

Happy Easter, filled with blessings, from our family to yours.

– Melissa

Melissa's daughter, Jillian, and her family.

(Two of Melissa's family recipes for children on the next page!)





Bunny Breakfast Bowl

INGREDIENTS:

2 eggs
2 strips of cooked bacon
1/4 cup shredded cheese (cheddar or any cheese of your choice)
2 blueberries
1 raspberry
Salt and pepper to taste
Cooking oil or butter

INSTRUCTIONS:

Cook the bacon until crispy. (Caution handling bacon with hot grease.) Once cool, cut each strip of bacon in half and shape it into a bunny ear by folding it gently. Scramble the eggs. Once the eggs are cooked to your liking, transfer them to a bowl. Place two bacon ears on top of the eggs. Sprinkle shredded cheese in a line across the center of the bowl to create the bunny's whiskers. Place two blueberries to make the eyes. Add a raspberry in the center to form the nose.

Easter Nests

INGREDIENTS:

4 cups crisped rice cereal
3 cups mini marshmallows
2 tablespoons unsalted butter
Candy decorations of your choice
Cooking spray or butter
Options: Green icing or green coconut

INSTRUCTIONS:

In a large saucepan, melt the butter over low heat. Then add the marshmallows and stir until smooth. Remove the saucepan from heat and add the rice cereal to mixture. Stir until cereal is evenly coated. While cereal is cooled, but slightly warm, shape the mixture into small nests. (Coat your hands with butter to prevent sticking. Caution taking mix out of pan.) Use a spoon to press center of each nest. Let nests set for 30 minutes, then add green icing or coconut if desired. Add candy decor to top of nests.



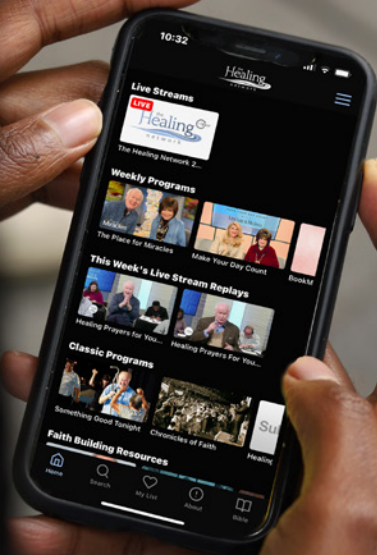
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