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**Date:** Sunday, April 9, 2023 at 7:06 PM  
**To:** JPI Associates <[jpiassociates@jpi.com](mailto:jpiassociates@jpi.com)>  
**Subject:** Happy Easter!

Good evening team,

I hope everyone had a great weekend. For those of you who celebrate the resurrection of Jesus on this Easter Sunday, I hope this was a very special day celebrating with family. For everyone else, the weather was pretty darn good in DFW (and I believe in SoCal) and great weather on the weekends is hard to beat.

When I was growing up, I didn't know much of anything about Jesus. I'm not even sure I could tell you I understood that He was God's son. You can see from the attached paper I wrote about the holidays when I was 8 years old, I didn't even reference Jesus when talking about Christmas and Easter.

On my first date with Andrea on February 13, 2004, she told me she had a personal relationship with Jesus. I had no clue what that meant but I was very attracted to her and if that was important to her, it was important to me.

I found a church in NYC called [The Journey](#) and I really enjoyed the worship music and teaching, but I still didn't "get it." It took over seven years and God got my attention on flight from Sao Paulo back to DFW on December 2, 2011. I had been trying to follow God but was really just pursuing the worldly lie that more money equals more happiness.

God hit me over the head and revealed the Truth but I still feel I'm only scratching the surface in my understanding of God's story. This short five minute [video](#) filmed back in 2014 will unpack that.

I love the diversity of our JPI family and am grateful for every single one of you whether you are Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Hindu, Buddhist, Shinto, Agnostic, Atheist or something else that I'm not aware of.

Having a personal relationship with Jesus has changed my life and if you are interested, I'd love the opportunity to tell you my story of how He took a broken sinner and used my most sinful actions to advance His Kingdom. I still struggle with envy and pride (and probably a host of other things) but this one pager reminds me that His hand has been all over my story and I am nothing without Him.

If you aren't interested, I'll love you just the same.

Let's have a great week.

Payton