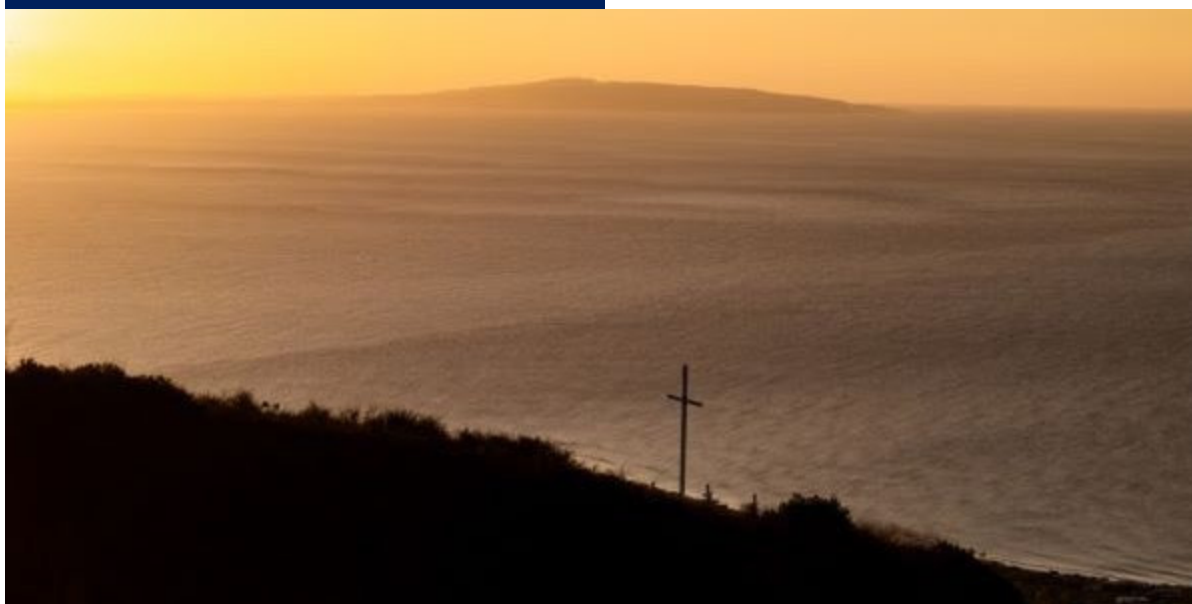




A Special Easter Message from Dyron Daugherty



Human Resources



"He Must Increase, I Must Decrease"

One of the great New Testament figures is John the Baptist. He became a famous preacher. Crowds flocked to him. He baptized many people and acquired a huge following. Many Jews claimed him as their rabbi.

However, around that time, Jesus Christ came onto the scene. Immediately, John the Baptist humbled himself, and declared: "*He must increase; I must decrease*" (John 3:30). John claimed he was not even worthy to untie Jesus's sandals.

John acknowledged the supremacy of Jesus in all things, saying, "*The Father loves the Son and has placed everything in His hands. Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life*" (John 3:35-36).

I am proud to work at Pepperdine—a place that tries to increase Jesus in all it does.

I want to do better at what John stated: "*He must increase; I must decrease.*" Too often, I lift myself up, rather than Jesus. Easter—the time when we reflect on the power of God over sin, suffering, and death through Jesus's resurrection—is a wonderful time to make a fresh start: to increase Jesus, and place less emphasis on myself. Because when Jesus increases in our lives and in our community, we become more fully who he made us to be.

May God bless you and your family this Easter.

Jesus said, "*And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself*" (John 12:32).

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