

HOME CHURCH DISCUSSION GUIDE – EASTER, APRIL 12, 2020



The Resurrected Jesus – Still Restoring Broken Lives Today.

1. What moved you about the “Then God” stories from Jen, Ka’eo, Danica, Steve and Eric? How did Jesus respond to each one’s brokenness? How do these stories show a resurrected Jesus who is still at work?

2. Read Romans 3:22-26 and 6:23. Why do we need Jesus’ death in order to have a relationship with a Holy God? In what sense does God require Jesus’ death for our sins in order to grant forgiveness and have a relationship with sinners like us? What is at stake for Him?

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead... 1 Peter 1:3

3. Matthew 27:51 tells us that at the moment Jesus died the curtain barrier in the temple that separated God from man was torn in two from top to bottom. What is God saying to us about access to Him? How has knowing what this access cost Him influenced your understanding of His love and pursuit of you? Take a moment to stop and praise Him for it.

4. In light of 1 Peter 1:3, discuss this statement:

“The resurrection of Christ is at work and on display every time a person comes to know Jesus.”

Have you had a “Then God” experience like those you heard today? This is not something emotional or passing but a firm decision to put your hope in God alone for your salvation – the God who in spite of your rebellion against Him, loves you and sent His Son Jesus to die in your place to bring you to Him.

Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this? John 11:25-26

5. What has God sovereignly placed in your back story that has shaped you and given you a story of hope to share with others? Make a brief list of some of those things.

6. Think about your “Then God” story. What lifts up the love and grace of the Lord in your story? Our stories encourage other believers. Share your story with someone in your family or give someone a call so that you can share what God has done in your life with them.

Sharing our hope in Jesus is an important part of being His disciples. Like the early church, your story bears witness to the resurrection. To develop your story in a way that would help someone understand and fall in love with Jesus, we invite you to use the “How to Write Your Story” guide, found at <https://thewellcommunity.org/then-god>, to help you refine, stay on target and be affective in sharing your story of redemption.



THINKING OF OTHERS IN A CRISIS

Read this Prayer in the time of a Pandemic

AUTHOR UNKNOWN

May we who are merely inconvenienced
remember those whose lives are at stake.

May we who have no risk factors
remember those most vulnerable.

May we who have the luxury of working
from home remember those who must
choose between preserving their health
or making their rent.

May we who have the flexibility to care
for our children when their schools close
remember those who have no options.

May we who have to cancel our trips
remember those that have no place to go.

May we who are losing our margin money
in the tumult of the economic market
remember those who have no margin at all.

May we who settle in for a quarantine at home
remember those who have no home.

As fear grips our country,
let us choose love.

During this time when we cannot
physically wrap our arms around each other,
let us yet find ways to be the loving embrace
of God to our neighbors.

Amen.

God's Protection (Pray that God would
stop the virus through vaccines, or
miraculous intervention.)

God's Provision (Financial Institutions,
Job Shut Down, Hourly Wage Earners,
Fixed Income, Food Supply, Stores.)

Those in Authority (Wisdom and Unity
for Police, Fire, Gov -Local, State,
National, International Leaders)

Medical Personnel (Protection over Rx,
Drs, Nurses, & Hospital Staff; Wisdom for
Researchers, etc.)

Hearts of the People (They would turn to
Christ during this crisis; People would
come to faith in Christ, the nominal would
be awakened, and believers would go
deeper in their faith.)

Those at Greatest Risk (Healing for the
Sick, Compromised Immune Systems,
Elderly, Homeless.)

Our Schools (Wisdom for Leaders,
Teachers, Staff and Support Personnel;
Food for Kids, etc.)

The Church & Nonprofits (Members and
Elders, Pastors and Staff, Compassion
Care and Witness, etc.)

Family / Friends (They Feel Supported &
Loved, Enriching Family Time, Health,
Specific Needs and Opportunity for
Ministry and Witness, etc.)

Yourself (Ask the Holy Spirit to
specifically lead you as to how you can
be a light for Christ during this time in
your three circles: Family/Friends,
Neighborhood and Community.)