



He is Risen



# LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS

# HEAD

- ✚ Let's hold on to the good news of the resurrection of Christ Jesus and His followers, as if our very lives depends on it — because they do.
- ✚ The **GUILT** from our past is overcome by God's **GRACE** in the present.
- ✚ The gospel is a baton to be handed off, who are you currently handing it off to?

# HEART

- ✚ Paul says he worked harder than the other apostles because he felt unworthy of God's grace. How does understanding your own unworthiness fuel your service to God rather than paralyze you with guilt?
- ✚ What does it mean practically to 'hold on to the gospel' in your daily life, and what are the signs that you might be letting it slip away?

# HEART

- ✚ Who are you currently 'handing the gospel baton off to' in your life, and what specific steps could you take to be more intentional about passing on your faith?
- ✚ The pastor mentions that the guilt of our past is overcome by God's grace in the present. What past guilt or shame do you need to release in light of the resurrection power that is at work in your life?

# HANDS

- ✚ This Week's Challenge - Choose One:
  - ✚ Option 1: The Resurrection Reality Check
    - ✚ Each day this week, spend 5 minutes reflecting on one consequence Paul lists if there's no resurrection (verses 14-19)
    - ✚ Journal about how believing in the resurrection changes your perspective on that area
  - ✚ Share your insights with the group next week
  - ✚ Option 2: The Grace-Fueled Action Plan
    - ✚ Identify one area where you've been "fat and lazy" on grace
    - ✚ Create a specific action step to serve, give, or minister this week
    - ✚ Ask someone to hold you accountable

# HANDS

- ✚ This Week's Challenge - Choose One:
  - ✚ Option 3: Pass the Baton
    - ✚ Identify one person you could begin investing in spiritually
    - ✚ Reach out to them this week and invite them to coffee, lunch, or a walk
    - ✚ Share your faith story and ask about theirs
  - ✚ Option 4: Resurrection Conversations
    - ✚ Have a conversation with one non-believing friend about the resurrection
    - ✚ Use Paul's evidence from verses 5-8 as talking points
    - ✚ Report back to the group about the conversation

# FIVE DAY DEVOTIONAL

# Day 1: Standing on Solid Ground

Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1-4

- Devotional:** The gospel is not just information we acknowledge; it is the foundation upon which we build our entire lives. Paul reminds the Corinthians that they received this message, stood upon it, and were being saved by it. Consider what you're truly standing on today. Are you relying on your good deeds to outweigh the bad? Are you hoping God grades on a curve? Or are you firmly planted on the truth that Jesus paid it all?
- The gospel has three essential components: Christ died for our sins, He was buried, and He was raised on the third day. This is not ancient history —it is present power. When you feel unstable or uncertain, return to this foundation. The resurrection is not just what you believed when you first came to faith; it is what continues to save you today through sanctification. Stand firm on this unshakable truth.
- Reflection:** What are you truly standing on today? How can you more firmly root your daily decisions in the gospel?

# Day 2: Grace That Transforms

Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:9-11

- Devotional:** Paul never forgot who he was before Christ—a persecutor of the church, unworthy to be called an apostle. Yet he declared, "By the grace of God I am what I am." This grace did not make him lazy; it ignited a fire within him to work harder than anyone else. Grace is not permission to coast through life; it is fuel for transformation.
- When we truly grasp our unworthiness and God's overwhelming grace, we cannot remain unchanged. The guilt of your past does not define you, but it should remind you of how far grace has brought you. Paul's past fueled his passion for the gospel. What shameful memories do you carry? Let them become testimonies of grace rather than chains of guilt. God's grace is not just sweet forgiveness—it is transformative power that propels us toward everything He created us to be.
- Reflection:** How has God's grace transformed your life? Are you working hard for the kingdom or coasting on grace?

# Day 3: The Resurrection Proves Everything

Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:12-19

- ✚ **Devotional:** Without the resurrection, Christianity collapses completely. Paul makes this devastatingly clear: if Christ was not raised, our preaching is worthless, our faith is worthless, and we are still dead in our sins. The cross alone, without the resurrection, is just a bad Friday. The resurrection proves that Jesus had the authority and power to take away the sins of the world.
- ✚ This is why the resurrection matters more than we often realize. It validates everything Jesus said and did. It confirms He was not just a good teacher or moral example but the Son of God with power over death itself. When doubts creep in, remember this: the resurrection is the linchpin of your faith. Remove it, and everything falls apart. Embrace it, and you have hope that death itself cannot destroy.
- ✚ **Reflection:** Do you truly believe in the bodily resurrection of Jesus? How does this belief change how you face death and suffering?

# Day 4: First Fruits of a Coming Harvest

Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:20-23

- Devotional:** Jesus is called the "first fruits" of the resurrection. In ancient Israel, first fruits were the initial crops offered to God in thanksgiving, but they also guaranteed more harvest was coming. Jesus was the first to be raised, and His resurrection guarantees ours is coming too.
- This truth should radically alter how we view death. For those in Christ, death is not the end—it is a temporary sleep before resurrection morning. Just as surely as Jesus walked out of that tomb, you will too if you belong to Him. The same power that raised Jesus from the dead is at work in you today, transforming you from the inside out. You are not hoping in something uncertain; you are waiting for a guaranteed harvest because the first fruits have already been gathered.
- Reflection:** How does knowing your resurrection is guaranteed change how you live today? What fears about death can you release?

# Day 5: Passing the Baton

## Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1-8

- Devotional:** Paul received the gospel and then passed it on to the Corinthians. He did not hoard this good news; he handed it off like a baton in a relay race. The gospel is not meant to end with us—it is designed to be shared, proclaimed, and lived out in community so others can receive it too.
- Who are you currently passing the gospel baton to? Are you investing in someone younger in the faith? Are you sharing the hope of resurrection with those who are lost? The gospel loses its power when it becomes private and personal only. It gains momentum when it is proclaimed and passed on. You have received grace, forgiveness, and the hope of resurrection. Now it is your turn to run your leg of the race and hand the baton to someone else. Do not let the gospel stop with you.
- Reflection:** Who is one person you can intentionally share the gospel with this week? How can you invest in someone's spiritual growth?

# Closing Prayer:

Father, thank You for the resurrection of Jesus Christ, which is the foundation of our faith and the guarantee of our future. Help us to stand firmly on this truth, to be transformed by Your grace, and to faithfully pass the gospel to others. May we never take for granted the power of the empty tomb. In Jesus' name, Amen.



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