



# COMMUNITY Groups

## December 10, 2023 – Sermon Discussion Questions

### ICEBREAKER

1. Do highs and lows from the last week!
2. Are you going to The Long Is Past on the 17<sup>th</sup>? Is there anyone you are inviting?

### DIG A LITTLE DEEPER

1. Review the message –
  - a. The foundation of our faith is the historical event of the resurrection of Jesus.
  - b. Christians who have already died are with Jesus, not in heaven.
  - c. Jesus will raise those who have died first and then take all believers with him at one time.
  - d. Our final destination post-death will be the new and restored earth.
2. Read 1 Thessalonians 4:13-14
  - a. What do you think Paul means when he says not to grieve like the rest of mankind? How does “mankind” grieve?
  - b. How are Christians to grieve and simultaneously hold onto hope at the same time?
  - c. How does the historical event of Jesus’ resurrection from death help us in grief?
  - d. What is Paul trying to say when he says some have “fallen asleep in him?”
3. Read 1 Thessalonians 4:15-18
  - a. When you think about Jesus coming back, the end times, does it give you fear or comfort? Why?
  - b. Read 1 Corinthians 15:12-58. What other new insights do we gain about what will happen upon Jesus’ return?
  - c. What about Eric’s message or these passages has challenged your pre-conceived ideas about what happens in the end times? Or did you find yourself in agreement?
  - d. How does knowing our eternal home is the new earth and not heaven sit with you? Is this a challenging or freeing idea?

### CLOSING

1. Who is someone in your life who needs this hope right now? How can you through either word or action proclaim this message of hope to them?
2. Pray