

# Apostles' \* Creed

JENKS CHURCH

## Small Group Guide: Living in Light of Eternity

### Icebreaker Question

What is one thing you hope to experience or see when Jesus returns and makes all things new?

### Discussion Questions

#### Part 1: Living Ready for Jesus' Return

*Read Matthew 24:44*

1. What does it mean practically to "live ready" for Jesus' return? How would your daily life look different if you truly believed He could return today?
2. What areas of your life feel "unready" for Christ's return? What steps could you take this week to address those areas?
3. How does the reality of Jesus' return affect your priorities, relationships, and use of time and resources?

#### Part 2: Loving Fearlessly

*Read 1 Corinthians 15:52 and Philippians 3*

4. How does believing in the resurrection of the body change the way we view our physical lives and relationships?
5. What fears hold you back from loving others more fully? How does the promise of resurrection address those fears?
6. Share an example of someone who has loved you fearlessly. What made their love feel fearless?



### Part 3: Living Hopefully

#### Read Revelation 21:1-4

7. What aspect of the new heaven and new earth are you most looking forward to? Why?
8. How can living hopefully affect the way we respond to current difficulties, injustices, or disappointments?
9. In what practical ways can we be "agents of hope" in our communities this week?

### Part 4: Receiving and Giving Forgiveness

10. The sermon states: "Your forgiveness of others is evidence and proof that you understand what it means to be forgiven." Do you agree with this statement? Why or why not?
  11. Is it harder for you to receive forgiveness or to give it? What makes one more difficult than the other?
  12. The sermon warns that "unwillingness to forgive only imprisons you." Have you experienced this imprisonment? What would freedom look like?
  13. Is there someone you need to forgive? What is holding you back? (Note: You don't need to share names, but be honest about the barriers.)
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## Practical Applications

Choose ONE of the following to practice this week:

### Option 1: Live Ready

- Conduct a "life audit" - examine your calendar, finances, and relationships. Ask: "If Jesus returned today, would I be pleased with how I'm investing my life?"
- Share your findings with an accountability partner.

### Option 2: Love Fearlessly

- Identify one relationship where fear has held you back from loving fully.
- Take one concrete step to love that person more fearlessly this week (a conversation, an act of service, a vulnerable confession, etc.).

### Option 3: Live Hopefully

- Choose one area of discouragement in your life.
- Write down three ways the promise of the new heaven and earth speaks hope into that situation.
- Share these with a friend and ask them to pray with you.

### Option 4: Practice Forgiveness

- If you need to receive forgiveness: Confess your sin to God and receive His grace. Consider sharing with a trusted friend.
  - If you need to give forgiveness: Write a letter (you don't have to send it) releasing the person who hurt you. Pray for them by name daily this week.
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