

## Care Group Discussion Guide Celebration Church

### 1. We are Christ's witnesses

- A. **Luke 24:46-53**: Does your life match the story of the resurrection?
  - i. Is the risen Christ evident in your life?
- B. **Ephesians 3:8-9**: This grace was given to me that I might preach the unsearchable riches of Christ and to make all see what is in this mystery.
  - i. Is there evidence of the mystery of the gospel in your life?
  - ii. A witness has proof.
    - a. We have tasted of God's goodness.

### 2. We are witnesses of Christ's suffering

- A. **Isaiah 53**: Christ carried your grief and rejection.
- B. **1 Corinthians 15:3**: Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures.
  - i. The suffering and death of Christ is the greatest manifestation of the great glory of God. It is the highest display of God's grace. The goal of the entire history of redemption is to bring about the praise of the glory of the grace of God. For in that we find our joy and fulfillment.
- C. **Ephesians 1:4**: He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world that we should be holy and without blame before Him.
- D. **2 Timothy 1:9**: He saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began.
- E. **Christ took the wrath of God on my behalf.**
  - i. **Galatians 3:13**: Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law, becoming a curse for us.
- F. **Christ took my sin and purchased forgiveness through His suffering.**
  - i. **1 Peter 2:24**: He bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness—by whose stripes you were healed.
- G. **Christ gave a perfect righteousness that becomes ours in Him.**
  - i. **Philippians 2:7-8**: He humbled himself, becoming like a man.
- H. **Christ defeated death by suffering death.**
  - i. **Hebrews 2:14-15**: Through His death, He rendered powerless the devil who had the power of death.
- I. **He disarmed Satan through suffering**
  - i. **Colossians 2:14-15**: He canceled the certificate of debt against us by nailing it to the cross, disarmed the rulers and authorities, and triumphed over them.
- J. **Final healing was purchased by suffering**
  - i. **Isaiah 53:5**: By His stripes we are healed.
- K. **Christ brings us to the Father.**
  - i. **Ephesians 3:18**: Through Him we have access to the Father.
- L. **In suffering Christ brought great victory.**
  - i. **1 Corinthians 15:57**: Thanks be to God who gives us the victory in Christ Jesus.
- M. **In our present trouble Christ has provided great victory and works in us triumphantly.**
  - i. **1 Corinthians 10:13**: He has provided a way of escape from temptation.

**3. We are witnesses of the resurrection.**

- A. **1 Peter 1:3**: We are born again into a living hope through the resurrection.
- B. **Romans 8:11**: The same Spirit that raised Christ from the dead lives in you.
  - i. Your job is not to control the outcome, but to release the power that is in you.
- C. **1 Corinthians 15:12-20**: The resurrection of Christ proves that the dead in Christ shall also rise from the dead.
- D. **We are forgiven.**
  - i. **Romans 4:25**: He was delivered up because of our transgressions and raised because of our justification.
- E. **Our faith is well founded.**
  - i. **Galatians 2:20**: Christ lives in me and this life I live now is by faith in Christ.
- F. **We are to be envied.**
  - i. **1 Corinthians 4:17**: This light, momentary affliction is working for us an eternal weight of glory.

**4. We are witnesses of repentance and forgiveness**

- A. **Romans 2:4**: The kindness [multi-faceted grace] of God draws you to repentance.
- B. **Acts 3:19-21**: Repentance blots out your sins and brings times of refreshing.
  - i. To *blot out* means “to obliterate.”
  - ii. Times of refreshing come from the presence of God.
- C. Do you have evidence of redemption and resurrection power in your life?