

## Life Group Study: Week 8 5/24/2020 – Christ, Church & COVID



### Getting Started

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This week we continued our series, *The Power of the Resurrection*, and explored the next steps we need to take during this challenging time. We are going to continue to discuss this in our Life Groups this week. Don't forget to have your journal or extra paper handy as you answer these questions.

### Study Questions

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- 1) As you think back over this weekend's message, what is one new insight that you gained?
  
- 2) This weekend Michael shared five steps we need to take as we navigate this challenging season together. Here are the steps:
  - *Choose...Wisdom*
  - *Seek First...The Kingdom*
  - *Love...One Another*
  - *Embrace...New Experiences*
  - *Listen...& Follow*
  - ↳ Of these five steps, which is easiest for you to take? Why?
  
  - ↳ Which is most challenging for you? Why?
  
  - ↳ As we move forward in this process as a church community, what do you believe will be your greatest challenges spiritually, physically and emotionally?
  
- 3) This weekend we learned that one of the important steps we will need to take is to *Embrace...New Experiences*. During this upcoming season, how we meet as a church body may look different. Read Acts 2:42-47.
  - ↳ Where did the first Christ-followers first meet in Jerusalem?
  
  - ↳ What types of things were happening among them when they met?
  
- 4) Early in the life of the Jerusalem church Christ-followers faced persecution from the religious leaders. Read Acts 8:1. What happened to the church as a result of this persecution?

5) Take a moment and read the following passages:

- Acts 12:1-19
- Acts 16:11-15, 40
- Acts 20:7-12
- Romans 16:3-5
- Colossians 4:15
- Philemon 1-2

↳ Once the church was scattered and began to spread, they were no longer able to all meet in the temple courts. According to these passages, where did the Christ-followers meet?

↳ Based on Michael's message this weekend and the passages above, what are some of your initial thoughts on meeting in homes?

6) In Romans 14-15, Paul is addressing some issues that are causing division and quarrels among the church. These were secondary issues, such as what day of the week the church should meet and whether or not they could eat meat sacrificed to idols or not. Read Romans 14:1-7, 13.

↳ How were the two sides responding to each other in a negative way?

↳ How does Paul say they should approach one another?

7) Read Romans 14:14. Paul says that ultimately there is a right and wrong answer. How would you summarize what he is saying?

8) Now, read Romans 14:15-21. How does Paul say we should respond to believers who do not yet realize the freedom they have in Christ?

9) Last, read Romans 15:1-7. According to Paul, what are the marks of a spiritually mature person?

↳ With this in mind, what are the implications for our lives in our current crisis and the different opinions we might hold?

10) As you spend time with God this week, use the following verses to meditate and pray about unity in the church:

- Ephesians 4:1-3