

Easter
Living Hope- Jesus is Risen!
Sunday, April 9, 2023

1 Peter 1: 3-9 NIV

³Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you, ⁵who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. ⁷These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. ⁸Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, ⁹for you are receiving the end result of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

1. **HOPE is Alive!** Do you believe? Do you live in this truth?
2. **HOPE Saves!** Do you rely on the power of Christ in you to save you, *even now*? How so? Where could you rely on Him more?
3. **HOPE Empowers!** How is the power of Christ empowering you now? Where in your life could you take hold of His power more fully? *Will you call on Him and draw from His power?*

Conclusion: Our Savior is very much alive and will reign for eternity! His death and resurrection have brought salvation, new life, and divine empowerment to those who believe. Christ lives in us!
Christ is the HOPE of Glory!

LIFE GROUP LESSON
Easter Sunday-Living Hope
Week of April 9 – April 15, 2023

Ice Breaker: How would you describe the difference in *hoping* something works out and the hope we have in Christ?

Read 1 Peter 1: 3-9.

1. What has God given us? How did He give it to us? (v.3)
2. What is a living hope? (v. 3)
3. What else did God, our Father give us? (v.4) Where is this gift kept?
4. How are we shielded by God's power in this time of waiting for to receive the fullness of our heavenly gifts? (v.5) What does it mean for us if we are shielded by God's power?
5. What are we commanded to do, even now amid trials? (v.6)
6. Why does God allow trials and hardship in our lives? (v.7)
7. Why is it so important to build and deepen our faith?
8. Read v. 8, how does this relate to the response, "*I know that I know, that I know*" regarding how do you know His Spirit is within you?
9. When we encounter the Living God what are we receiving? (v.9)
10. What does this teach us about what we have in Christ and the relationship He offers even now?
11. Read John 20: 13-16. What do we learn about Jesus? What do you see in the Father's heart?
12. Read Luke 24: 36-39. How did Jesus address His friends? What question did He ask them? What does this teach us about how Jesus comes to us in His Spirit? How important is His Word to our confidence and security in who He is?
13. Read 1 Corinthians 15: 20-22. What are the comparisons and differences revealed between Adam and Jesus? Why are these significant?
14. Read 1 Corinthians 1:18. Why is the message of the cross seen as foolish to some and the absolute power of God to others? What do you believe? Do you draw from this power daily?
15. Read Colossians 1:27. What is the mystery God revealed?
16. How can you be more aware of the Hope of glory within you?
17. How could this awareness empower you to act with greater courage and joy to accomplish the things God is calling you to do?

Point to ponder: Christ is our resurrected King and He reigns, not only over all the earth, but in our lives. Give Him your heart fully and trust your King to lead you well. Draw from the Hope of Glory flowing in you.