



# TC Easter 2018

## **BIG IDEA**

This weekend we remembered and celebrated what Jesus did for us through the work of the Cross. What mankind intended to be humiliating, painful and ultimate death was turned around by Jesus to be an event motivated by love and a victory over the power of sin, death and evil.

Through His act of love on the Cross, we can live knowing that we are loved and that we are worth the precious blood of Jesus! And through His resurrection, we too are resurrected into a new creation, free from bondage to sin and now we too can live in freedom!

### **2 Corinthians 5:19 NLT**

<sup>19</sup>For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people's sins against them. And he gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation.

### **1 John 3:16 NLT**

<sup>16</sup>We know what real love is because Jesus gave up his life for us. So we also ought to give up our lives for our brothers and sisters.

### **Romans 5:8 NLT**

<sup>8</sup>But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.

### **Romans 8:10-15 NLT**

<sup>10</sup>And Christ lives within you, so even though your body will die because of sin, the Spirit gives you life because you have been made right with God. <sup>11</sup>The Spirit of God, who raised Jesus from the dead, lives in you. And just as God raised Christ Jesus from the dead, he will give life to your mortal bodies by this same Spirit living within you.

<sup>12</sup>Therefore, dear brothers and sisters, you have no obligation to do what your sinful nature urges you to do. <sup>13</sup>For if you live by its dictates, you will die. But if through the power of the Spirit you put to death the deeds of your sinful nature, you will live. <sup>14</sup>For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children[g] of God.

<sup>15</sup>So you have not received a spirit that makes you fearful slaves. Instead, you received God's Spirit when he adopted you as his own children. Now we call him, "Abba, Father."

### **Romans 8:34-38 NLT**

<sup>34</sup>Who then will condemn us? No one—for Christ Jesus died for us and was raised to life for us, and he is sitting in the place of honor at God's right hand, pleading for us.

<sup>35</sup>Can anything ever separate us from Christ's love? Does it mean he no longer loves us if we have trouble or calamity, or are persecuted, or hungry, or destitute, or in danger, or threatened with death? <sup>36</sup>(As the Scriptures say, "For your sake we are killed every day; we are being slaughtered like sheep.") <sup>37</sup>No, despite all these things, overwhelming victory is ours through Christ, who loved us.

<sup>38</sup>And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God's love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow—not even the powers of hell can separate us from God's love.

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. What is one thing that spoke to you from our Good Friday and Easter sermons?
2. We heard Pastor Bernard speak about how Jesus' death was an expression of His great love for us but many of us find it hard to believe that in our hearts. How does Jesus' death speak to you and what has been and is the effect that it has on your life today?
3. Jesus died for the forgiveness of sins. Many see sin as a crime of which a person needs to be punished, but sin is actually a disease we have that needs healing. Can you share with your group a struggle you have with sin and how Jesus' love and grace has helped you (no need to be specific on the sin).
4. Sin leads to spiritual death but through Jesus' victory over death on the Cross, we have life. How does knowing that Jesus rose again give you confident hope that you can overcome the struggles of life?
5. Pastor Alex spoke about how we can prevent ourselves from living life to the full as we miss out on the many opportunities that God has laid out before us. Can you recall a time when this happened to you? How did Jesus assure you that He was with you in your situation?
6. Through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, we now have freedom from sin (and its guilt and shame) as we are empowered by the Holy Spirit to make better choices, withstand temptation,

and be healed from our disease. What can you do to strengthen your awareness of the holy Spirit's presence in your life and to be more sensitive to His voice?

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Pray for your group so that each member has a deeper revelation of God's love for them this week which will lead to heart transformation and changed lives.