Small Group Discussion Guide
I’ve Got Questions

Did Jesus Rise From the Dead?

SERIES BIG IDEA
Even when facing big questions that don’t have easy answers, we can find solid reasons to move forward in faith, believing that the message of Christianity is true.

MESSAGE BIG IDEA
The most important question ever asked has an answer. That answer is “yes”!

OPENING QUESTIONS
1. If you could bring one person back from the dead to spend a whole day with who would it be and why?

THE CRUCIFIXION OF JESUS
Read Isaiah 52:13-53:12

This Isaiah passage is a prophetic telling of Jesus’ death on the cross that was written by the prophet Isaiah who lived 700 years before Jesus walked the earth.

2. What stands out to you about this foretelling of the crucifixion?

3. In verse 4 we read “Jesus took up our pain and bore our suffering”. What pain and suffering have you been holding on to that Jesus wants to bear for you and with you?

In John 3:16 we read “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son”. Some of us imagine this verse instead to be read “For God so hated the world, that he killed his only Son”. Whether in theory or practice we imagine the gospel to be about a wrathful God taking out his anger on his Son Jesus instead of us, this is a distortion of the gospel. In page after page of the New Testament, we are told that what happened in the death of Jesus happened because of the love of God.

4. In what ways have you pictured the crucifixion of Jesus to be about a wrathful God taking out his anger on his son? How do you feel about that type of God? How do you think that God feels about you?

5. Jesus shows us exactly what God is like. Does the image of an angry God match with other things we know about who Jesus is?

6. How might your image of God change if you viewed the crucifixion as a self-giving act of love from God instead of based on anger? How do you feel about that God? How do you think that God feels about you?

THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS
Jesus said to her, ‘I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die.’” (John 11:25)

7. What does Jesus’s resurrection mean to you?
Small Group Discussion Guide
I’ve Got Questions

8. The good news of the gospel is that God delivers us from and into three different realities. Which of these realities is most meaningful for you today? Why?
   a. Delivered from death into life
   b. Delivered from fear into love
   c. Delivered from darkness into light

THE REIGN OF JESUS
When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. Then he placed his right hand on me and said: “Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last. I am the Living One; I was dead, and now look, I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades. (Revelation 1:17-18)

In the resurrection, Jesus defeats evil, sin, and death and took up his throne as King of the Universe. The Good News is that King Jesus reigns forever!

9. What might the reign of Jesus mean for our world facing COVID-19?

10. How does this reality of God’s Kingdom transform your character?

11. What does this reality mean for your calling?

MICRO GROUP
Get into smaller micro-groups of 3 or 4 for the remainder of this discussion guide. Micro groups should be same sex – all men or all women. Keep these same micro groups throughout this series.

H2O – Habits to Outcome
Spiritual habits (Bible engagement, prayer, accountability, journaling, and serving) lead to the outcomes of Character Transformation* and Calling Activation*. In this series we will focus on the habit of Journaling.

Last week we journaled out our questions about why suffering happens and took those to God in prayer.

12. Share what you journaled with the group.

This week we will:
This week journal out what the crucifixion, resurrection, and reign of Jesus means for your life and our world. Specifically, journal about how this reality transforms your character and activates your calling.

Close your micro group by praying for each other.

*Character Transformation means that your character is demonstrating the fruits of the Spirit as you become more like Jesus. (Galatians 5:22-23)

*Calling Activation means that you are living our your primary calling as a disciple maker. (Matthew 28:19-20)