



CONNECT GROUP LEADER GUIDE

Radical #6 – Radically Victorious

BEGIN WITH YOUR HEART

Easter. How does the resurrection give you hope for today? If you want a funny way to get this conversation started, here's a 3 year old Scottish girl asking some great questions about the confusion she has about Easter. How do we share the practical hope of Easter with our friends and family? How does it impact us?

(The Easter Bunny and Jesus - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Xgk6g-ovjM>)

A LOOK IN GOD'S WORD

What was the initial response to Jesus' resurrection? This is a very intriguing study about how the different groups of people responded to the resurrection. I'm not sure I've ever looked at all of these passages together, side by side. Read the passages together and jot down your observations. There are some simple application ideas that follow – pick at least one application step if you can't get to them all.

MY LIFE- OUR MISSION

It matters. The fact that Jesus rose from the dead changes everything. When you place your faith in Him and your hope in His resurrection, your life is now defined in Christ and you have a new mission to share that good news with others. A side discussion to this portion of the study may be to talk about what makes us apprehensive about sharing this good news with people we know and love. We often want them to know it, it means everything to us, but we can be apprehensive to bring it up. Explore why that is.

Christ Community Church Announcements

Vision Planning Process | Mark Your Calendar! On Sunday, APR 30, 4:00-6:00 pm, in G2, your contribution is needed for our Ten Year Vision Plan process. On this day, members, attenders, and newcomers are invited to join in answering the question, "Lord, where are you taking CC Ames over the next 10+ years?" This time will include small group discussion and reporting on questions that directly inform our long-range plan process currently underway. Plan to be present for this important church family conversation. [To be clear, no meal will be served.]

Fall trip to Bolivia | We will be taking a group to Bolivia this fall [probably SEP] to do a clean water project. If you have ever considered joining a Bolivia team, we would love to answer any questions. You can contact James Carlat [jacarlat@gmail.com].

Did you know Christ Community Ames has a "**Caring Fund**"? Residents of Ames who qualify can receive financial assistance with rent, utilities and related living expenses. This fund allows us to be the hands and feet of Jesus to the community. When giving online, simply select "Caring Fund". When writing a check, please include "Caring Fund" in the memo line. Special envelopes can also be found at the Start Here desk.



Connect Group Study for RADICAL #6

Radically Victorious: The Resurrection of the Savior

This week's teaching focused on two key questions: *Is Jesus the crucified Christ actually alive? And If so, so what?* As you know, there were different responses to the resurrection of Jesus. Belief, doubt, denial, wonder, anger.

BEGIN WITH YOUR HEART

Take some minutes and share with your group what the resurrection of Jesus the crucified Christ means to you. **What significance does it have for your life?** Does it give you hope? Because of the resurrection of Jesus, what are you hoping for? What are you confident it? Invest some important moments in sharing.

IN THE WORD

Let's explore the different reactions to the report of Jesus' bodily resurrection. Read the passages; describe in your words the reaction.

WHO	REACTION
Matthew 28:1-8	
Matthew 28:11-15	
Mark 16:9-13	
Luke 24:1-12	
Luke 24:13-35	
John 20:24-28 (cf. 1 Peter 1:8-9)	

Paul catalogues Jesus' resurrection appearances in 1 Corinthians 15:3-9 (READ). How important is it that we believe that Jesus actually came back from death, and rose from the grave bodily? (see 1 Corinthians 15:12-23). Explain this in your own words to your group – how would you say what Paul is saying about the importance of the resurrection.

MY LIFE, OUR MISSION

Our mission is about a RISEN, LIVING savior. *Connect people to life-defining relationships **IN CHRIST**.* It is through our "in-Christ" relationships that our very thinking and living can be *redefined*. We offer the very life of the living Christ to one another and those who are outside the family of God.

So what would you say should someone ask, "Do you REALLY think Jesus Christ rose from the dead? Why?" Could you give a clear, helpful answer? [practice with your group members]

Spend some time praying for those you know who may be doubting or dismissing the truth of the resurrection of Jesus. Ask God in PRAYER how you can CARE for them so that, at the right moment, you can SHARE with them that Jesus is truly alive, and that real, eternal life can be found in Him. His resurrection means everything!

Thanks for praying together for the fruitfulness of the upcoming Easter season!