

king's chapel

Community Group Discussion Guide

Week of April 16, 2017

This Week's Focus: Jesus' penal substitutionary atoning sacrifice on the cross and his subsequent triumphant resurrection from the grave has purchased the redemption of all those who call upon the name of Jesus for the forgiveness of sins!

This Week's Text: John 19:28-20:18

Observations and Questions for Discussion:

- What are the two final statements Jesus makes on the cross? John records Jesus' thirst while Mark records that darkness covered the land during Jesus' crucifixion (Mark 15:33-34). What penalty did Jesus endure on the cross for you? Reference Nahum 1:6.
- What did Jesus accomplish on the cross as expressed in his final statement, "It is finished"? Do you struggle to accept the grace of God toward you in the cross of Jesus Christ? Discuss how depending on yourself detracts from the sufficiency of the cross. Reference Ephesians 2:8-9.
- Why did Jesus shed his blood for us? Reference Leviticus 17:11 and Hebrews 10:5-12. Discuss the differences between the Old Testament sacrifices of lambs and goats with the once-for-all, substitutionary, atoning sacrifice of Jesus Christ.
- What is culturally significant about the fact that Mary Magdalene is mentioned in all four Gospels as the first eyewitnesses to the risen Lord? How does this lend credibility to the resurrection story?
- Who did Mary immediately tell about the empty tomb? What did they conclude after visiting the tomb (John 20:8-10)?
- Can you identify with Mary's sorrow? What have you depended on for value, significance, and personal worth? Like Mary, have you been awakened to the reality of Jesus' glory; is he the source of your identity and eternal security?
- Why did Mary grasp Jesus, and how did he respond? Discuss how God the Holy Spirit indwells us and persistently unifies us with the risen Jesus.
- How has our relationship with God changed because of the cross and Jesus' subsequent resurrection from the grave? Reference John 20:17 and Romans 8:15.
- As recipients of God's grace, and as his adopted sons and daughters, what is our future hope? Reference Philippians 3:20-21 and 1 Corinthians 15.