

## **LIFE GROUP VIRTUAL OUTLINE #4 Series - This is the Way!**

### **Title: Choosing Christ, Choosing Resurrection Life**

**Worship – 10 mins. max.**

Someone leads a song of worship or play a song from You Tube while everyone else will be on mute.)

*Options:*

- *Ask participants to share testimonies of answered prayers.*
- *Ask someone to read a passage of scripture Philippians 3:7-11 NIV, Galatians 5:1-6 NKJV*

### **Welcome – ICE BREAKER 15mins. max. "Would you rather?"**

The game focuses on getting to know members in the life group by the kind of answers they give.

Instructions: Ask each participant to answer the following questions. One person, one question.

1. Would you rather have super hearing or super eyesight? Why?
2. Would you rather be on the beach or on a snowy mountain? Why?
3. Would you rather be an Olympic swimmer or a parachute instructor? Why?
4. Would you rather travel on a cruise or fly to your holiday destination? Why?
5. Would you rather have ice cream or pizza? Why?

**COMMENTS: To keep the life group within an hour, let's limit questions to 5.**

**Discussion Question: *What was the biggest decision you made that you will never regret? Will you ever do it again if given a choice?***

**Word – 30 mins. max**

**Intro:** The Old Covenant which God handed to Moses for the people of Israel is the covenant of laws. It is rules-based covenant; a series of dos and don'ts., As long as the Israelites followed them, it brought God's blessings to the nation. However, if they failed to obey, they received God's judgment. God provided a New Covenant of Grace in Christ Jesus as a demonstration of His unconditional love. Jesus paid for the penalty of our sins by His death on the cross. His resurrection from the dead is a proof that His sacrifice was powerful for the forgiveness, justification, and victorious life against sins and Satan. These benefits are for those who choose to believe in Him and surrender one's life to His Lordship.

### **Main Text: Philippians 3:7-11 NIV**

Paul was talking to the Gentile believers in Philippians who were told by so-called believers in Jesus the need for them to be circumcised in order to be saved and become acceptable to God. He went on to share his knowledge in Judaism and considered it all "garbage" or worth nothing in comparison to knowing Christ. Paul told the Philippians that he gave everything up for the sake of knowing Christ and in doing so, he gained access to the resurrection power and life of Christ.

**Q. Was there a time when you have given up something for the sake of someone?**

#### **1. Going back to rules-based life returns us to being disconnected to Christ**

*v1"Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage... v4You have become estranged from Christ, you who attempt to be justified by law; you have fallen from grace."* Galatians 5:1,4 NKJV

Paul told the Galatian believers that there is no need to struggle in fulfilling the old covenant of being right with God thru following rules and regulations. He said that our righteousness comes from Christ who died on the cross so we can have redemption and forgiveness of sins as long as we surrender our lives to Him.

**Q: Would you share a time you felt disconnected to God? What brought you back?**

#### **2. Choosing to know Christ intimately will position us to enjoy His resurrection power**

*"I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me."* Galatians 2:20 NKJV

Making a daily decision to choose to live for Christ means to die to the flesh (our old sinful nature). When we choose to die to the flesh, Christ provides us the Holy Spirit's power to help us crucify the flesh (the sinful nature that dictates us to sin). When we are living in the Holy Spirit's power, His grace is sufficient for us to say 'no' to temptations. When we sin, we can go back to God by repentance and seeking forgiveness.

**Q: Would you share a time when you had to struggle with the temptation to obey or disobey God's commands**

**Q: When there were times you fail to obey God's commands, do you run away from or run towards God?**

**Conclusion:** We need to choose to be intimate with Christ daily by being in His presence thru worship, prayers and reading of the scriptures. When we do this, He puts to death the power of the flesh (sinful nature) over us. This intimacy with Christ will make us overcome the lies and condemnation of the devil and therefore those lies will no longer rule in a believer's life. ***Therefore, Christ's resurrection from the dead is our ultimate assurance of victory over death and the devil.***

**Work (Application) – 5mins. Final thoughts**

When we choose Christ over anything or everyone else, He will provide everything we need for life and godliness because of the power of the Holy Spirit who lives in us.

**Closing Prayer: 5mins.**

Please take time to pray for one another. Ask for specific prayer requests. Assign people to take turns in prayer.