

This discussion guide is designed for Saylorville Church Community Groups as they live and learn together each week. The sermons and guides can be found at www.saylorvillechurch.com/sermons.

CONNECT WITH YOUR GROUP (10-15 MINUTES)

- Have you ever struggled with doubts or uncertainty about your faith? Who/what helped you work through those questions?

APPLY THE BIBLE (45-60 MINUTES)

- **Remember** what you talked about last time. Is there anything you need to **follow up** on this week?
- **Review** your Sermon Notes together. What is **one thing** that sticks out to you about what you learned?
- **Read** this week's passage together. In his message, Pastor Pat reminded us that because God's Word is trustworthy and Jesus is alive, we can have certainty about what we believe, Whom we trust, and where we will spend eternity.

You Can Be Certain (Read Luke 1:1-4)...**1. The Bible Is the Infallible, Unchanging, and Eternal Word of God...You Can Stake Your Life On It (2 Timothy 3:16-17 and 1 Thessalonians 2:13)**

- *The Bible is unchanging, yet it has the power to change you.*
 - What is the difference between believing the Bible is true and actually building your life upon its truth? What evidence of that difference can you see in your own life?
 - Where are you most tempted to rely on your own understanding, feelings, or cultural opinions rather than the unchanging truth of God's Word?

2. Jesus Is Both the Son of God and Son of Man Who Lived, Died, and Rose Again...For You (Acts 1:1-3 and Galatians 2:20)

- *Jesus didn't simply die and rise again. He did it for you.*
 - Paul declares that Jesus "loved me and gave himself for me" (Galatians 2:20). How does personally embracing that truth change the way you see yourself and live for Christ?
 - How could you communicate the certainty of Jesus' resurrection to someone who is skeptical about Christianity?

3. Jesus Is Coming Back, and When He Returns, He Will Take Your Inglorious Body...and Make it Just Like His Glorious Body (Philippians 3:20-21)

- *The world offers promises of longer, healthier, and happier lives, but none can promise resurrection.*
 - How does the certainty of Jesus' return and our future resurrection change the way you view aging, sickness, suffering, and death?
 - Philippians 3:20 reminds us that our citizenship is in heaven. What would look different in your priorities, decisions, or daily life if you lived with greater awareness of that reality?

4. You Can Know Your Sins Are Forgiven and That You Have Eternal Life...If You'll Admit You're Lost (Luke 19:10 and 1 John 5:11-13)

- *Although your tomorrows are uncertain, your eternity doesn't have to be.*
 - According to 1 John 5:11-13, what is the basis for our assurance of eternal life? How is biblical assurance different from simply hoping we're good enough for heaven?
 - How should certainty about our own salvation create urgency and compassion for people around us who are still lost? Who are some lost people in your home, neighborhood, or around the world that you're praying for?

Receive and Respond: What will I do because of what I just heard?

PRAY TOGETHER (5-15 MINUTES)

- Pray that your confidence in God's promises would produce greater obedience, courage, and hope.

