

Life Group Notes

These notes are to serve you as you lead your group.

*Please feel free to select the passages and **only use the questions which are most relevant to your group** and for the way you want to lead the session. (There are more questions here than you'll need)*

- *Please choose (or adapt) the questions which you believe will **bring about the most honest, faith-building and life changing conversations**, and add others if you want to.*
- *The readings and questions develop from one section to the next. Please **take time to move through the ones you want to use, giving time for discussion and sharing - ideally leading to a response to God's word.***

Life Group Notes

Theme: Saying Yes

Saying 'Yes' to Jesus' finished work

'Finished!' - This can be a victory cry, a simple statement of fact, or even a cry of despair. As we come to look at Jesus' words, uttered from the cross, we see that his cry 'it is finished' contains deeper meaning for him, and for us. His cry is one of completion, of victory, and one which brings hope to us today.

Setting the scene

1. **Can you think of a time when you were glad / sad that something was 'finished'?**

Read **John 19:28-30**

2. **At the time these events took place, things must have seemed bleak. If you had been one of the people near the cross, what might you have thought Jesus was referring to when he said "It is finished"?**
3. Looking back on the experience of being near the cross himself, John wrote that Jesus asked for a drink 'to fulfil scripture', and we get the sense that John had spent considerable time reflecting on this moment. **As you reflect on the scene of Jesus on the cross, what are you especially aware of?**
4. We heard on Sunday that Jesus' cry 'it is finished' meant more than the end of his life, and was because:
 - a. His work was completed - he had been obedient, even to death
 - b. His mission was fulfilled - even all the prophecies were fulfilled
 - c. His kingdom had come - he was the victor, not a victim.
 - d. His enemies had been defeated - (See Col 2:15)

As you reflect on these four points, which one stands out to you the most today? Why?

5. Using the wording of the hymn 'Praise my soul the king of heaven' We saw on Sunday that Jesus' cry 'it is finished' means that we are:
 - a. 'Ransomed' [if people want examples, Matt 20:26-28; Heb 9:15]
 - b. 'Healed' [if people want examples, 1 Pet 2:24; Isa 53:5]
 - c. 'Restored' [if people want examples, Heb 4:14-16]
 - d. 'Forgiven' [if people want examples, Col 2:13-14]

How would you describe the meaning and significance of these?

6. Have you fully accepted that Jesus' work on your behalf is enough, and that you are now 'ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven'?

- a. If not, which one(s) do you find hardest to fully accept? Why?
- b. What gets in the way of fully accepting these truths?

7. How might we live differently if we truly accepted that Jesus' work on our behalf really is enough for us, and that we are now 'ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven'?

- a. What might the effect on our relationship with God be?
- b. What might the effect on our relationship with others be?
- c. What differences might other people observe as they watch our lives?

Application

It may be that a time of worship, reflection, or response is appropriate for your group, thanking God for all that Christ has won for us.

It may also be helpful to reflect on **Phil 1:6**, and note that although Jesus' work on the cross is complete, he is still at work in us - and will be until he comes again!