



This Study Guide is designed to help you apply Sunday's message. Join one of our message-based Community Groups to do this study together. Visit the Groups table after service to find a group!

LESSON AIM: The aim of this lesson is to anchor our hope in the glory of God.

BELONG in God's family:

CHECK IN: (optional) Let's briefly share with each other how we've been doing this week.

OPENING PRAYER

ICEBREAKER: Have you experienced a difficult situation that you prayed to be delivered from, only to realize later that it glorified God more than a quick and easy end to your troubles would have? Share with the group.

BECOME like Jesus:

1. Sunday's message focused on how to anchor our lives in the glory of God. What new idea about God's glory, and how you can anchor your life in it, did you take away?
2. Let's read Matthew 27:46, Mark 15:34 and Luke 23:46. These verses reveal Jesus' humanity – from a human perspective, He was not looking forward to what the Father had planned for Him. Think about what would have happened if God had granted Jesus' request in Luke 22:42 – what would Easter look like now? How would that have glorified God?
3. Go to Isaiah 43:7. Why did God create us? Consider some of the most respected and envied people in our culture: the wise, the strong, the rich. According to Jeremiah 9:23-24 and Colossians 2:3, what does God want us to boast about?

4. Reading Romans 11:33-36, imagine Paul's sense of wonder, as well as Isaiah's in 55:8-9. What is God doing in Romans 9:23 and Colossians 1:27, and to whom?
5. Consider some of the other belief systems to which people anchor their lives. Which ones center on someone who was raised from the dead? What hope do they offer?

BLESS others:

Look at 2 Peter 3:11-12 and Revelation 21:1. These verses are both sobering and encouraging. How does this "sneak peek" at the end encourage you to live in a way that brings glory to God?

BUILD God's kingdom:

Easter is popularly associated with bunnies, baby chicks, eggs, new clothes, and perhaps going to church as a family tradition. We, as followers of Jesus, know it as Resurrection Sunday, the most important Day – for without Easter, Christmas holds no special meaning. How does our observance of this Day set us apart from the world?

BELIEVE God and act in faith:

The Westminster Confession includes the words, "The chief end of man is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever," echoing 1 Corinthians 10:31 and Romans 11:36. How does glorifying God lead naturally to enjoying Him?

PRAYER: What challenge are you facing this week? How can our group pray and support you?

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