



LEADER'S NOTES

PHILIPPIANS: RESURRECTED LIFE

Press On

Philippians 3:7-14

Question 1 allows your group some time with our Scripture for the week. I think it would be best to have each member of your group comment on something in this amazing passage.

Question 2 allows for some storytelling, inviting your group members to share when they first became aware that they knew Christ. It also asks about "righteousness by faith." This is the understanding that we are not made right with God by our works but by faith in Jesus Christ, who is the son of God and who died for us and rose again.

Question 3 focuses on verses 10 and 11. It asks if your group members have ever participated in the sufferings of Christ. This may be a difficult question for some. Certainly, Paul is speaking directly about the persecution that he is facing. And while this level of persecution is probably unknown to most of us, anytime we exert the effort necessary and make sacrifices to grow in our faith, we are participating in the sufferings of Christ. Any time we face temptation and stand firm or step out of our comfort zone to share Christ, any suffering we endure for our faith is sharing in the suffering of Christ.

Question 4 deals with verses 12-14. The heart of this question deals with "forgetting what is behind and straining towards what is ahead." This question may present you with an excellent opportunity to remind your group members that they are forgiven in Christ and can forget the mistakes and failures of the past. It also asks them to honestly admit if they genuinely are straining, giving the effort necessary to truly grow. If any of your group members are brave enough to admit, they are treading water, and not growing. It could be a great opportunity to gracefully encourage them to add intensity and intentionality to their walk with Christ.