EXEMPTINESS: PART 1 SEEING JESUS CHANGES EVERYTHING

Growth Group Questions May 25, 2025 "Jesus Keeps Showing Up"

SCRIPTURE <u>1 Corinthians 15:1-11</u>

¹Now, brothers and sisters, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. ² By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain.

³ For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance^[a]: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, ⁴ that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, ⁵ and that he appeared to Cephas,^[b] and then to the Twelve. ⁶ After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers and sisters at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. ⁷ Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles, ⁸ and last of all he appeared to me also, as to one abnormally born.

⁹ For I am the least of the apostles and do not even deserve to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰ But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them—yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me. ¹¹ Whether, then, it is I or they, this is what we preach, and this is what you believed.

<u>Isaiah 53:4-5</u>

⁴ Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted.
⁵ But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.

<u>Isaiah 5</u>3:11

¹¹ After he has suffered,

he will see the light of life^[a] and be satisfied^[b];

- by his knowledge^[c] my righteous servant will justify many,
 - and he will bear their iniquities.

<u>Acts 15:12-14</u> ¹² The whole assembly became silent as they listened to Barnabas and Paul telling about the signs and wonders God had done among the Gentiles through them. ¹³ When they finished, James spoke up. "Brothers," he said, "listen to me. ¹⁴ Simon^[a] has described to us how God first intervened to choose a people for his name from the Gentiles.

Acts 15:19-20

¹⁹ "It is my judgment, therefore, that we should not make it difficult for the Gentiles who are turning to God.²⁰ Instead we should write to them, telling them to abstain from food polluted by idols, from sexual immorality, from the meat of strangled animals and from blood.

C.S. LEWIS, Letters to Malcolm

"Gratitude exclaims, very properly, 'How good of God to give me this.' Wonder goes further and says, 'Wow! What is this that God has done?"

OUESTIONS

- 1. In 1 Corinthians 15:3-8, the Apostle Paul relates how Jesus appeared to the disciples and others following His resurrection. As you think back over the many times Jesus appeared following His resurrection, what thing or things strike you the most?
- 2. Pastor Paul said that Jesus' resurrection is proof that our sins has been dealt with. How does Jesus' resurrection prove that sin has been vanquished?
- 3. Pastor Paul noted that when Jesus appeared following the resurrection, He "just showed up" to people as they were living their regular lives. How does Jesus show up and meet us in our everyday lives?
- 4. How does an encounter with Jesus transform our lives? Can you site examples from the Bible where an encounter with Jesus transformed someone's life?
- 5. What do you think the Apostle Paul meant by his statement in 1 Corinthians 15:10?
- 6. How would you describe the importance of God's grace in your life?
- 7. Pastor Paul said we were made to wonder. What is wonder and why is it important to have and express wonder in our lives?

PASTOR PAUL'S SERMON QUESTIONS:

- 1. How can you be more intentional about "expressing wonder" this week?
- 2. When was the last time you sensed Jesus doing something in your life?