

Cross of Hope Making Faith Connections Small Group Ministry

May 11, 2025

Jesus Lives!

Hear his voice

15 Minutes **Gathering and Check-in ... *share where you've encountered God this week.***

Prayer O God of peace, you brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep. By the blood of your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do your will, and work among us all that is well-pleasing in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. (ELW p33)

45 Minutes **Introduction:** The gift of new life, of eternal life, is the gift of the risen Christ. It is the promise of Jesus. It was true for Dorcas in Joppa. It was true for those “who have come out of the great ordeal” in the Revelation vision. It is true for us and for all the baptized: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever. (from Sundays and Seasons)

Discussion Questions:

Read again John Acts 9:36-43

What do you notice about this story as you read/hear it this time?

What is challenging or confusing as you read/hear it this time?

What are the voices to be heard in this story?

How does the voice of God speak life?

What does it's similarities to Luke 7: 11-17 have to reveal to us?

What is the role of the community in this story?

What is the role of faith in this story?

Read again John 10: 22-30

What do you notice about this story as you read/hear it this time?

What is the proclamation of faith in Jesus' answer?

What is the gift of faith Jesus proclaims in his answer?

How does the mutuality of God - Father, Son and Holy Spirit – model the mutuality of the church/community of faith?

Read again Revelation 7: 9-17

What do you notice about this story as you read/hear it this time?

What is the good news proclaimed in this vision of hope?

Why is it powerful to have the main image of Jesus be the Lamb?

Read and reflect on Psalm 23 if you'd like!

20 Minutes **Prayer Requests and Prayer**

10 Minutes **Wrap Up and Get Ready to Leave Session**