

Small Group Questions

Solana Beach Presbyterian Church

SBPC Sermon-Based Small Groups Week of April 11, 2010
Journey with Jesus: Lord of the Church – Mark 16:15, 19-20

START IT – Connecting with each other

- How did you celebrate Easter as a child? How did you celebrate Easter and the resurrection of Christ this year?
- Discuss: How can we participate in Come Build Hope? Will we go together?

STUDY IT – Mark 16:15, 19-20

- How did this week's Scripture text and message affirm or challenge you in your journey with Jesus?
- What does this passage tell us about Jesus? What instructions did Jesus give to his followers? What are the implications of that for us individually? As a church?
- What happened to Jesus after He was taken up into heaven? Also read Phil 2:9-11; Rom 8:34; Eph 1:20; Col 3:1; Heb 8:1, 10:12, 12:2. How did the early church demonstrate their belief in the resurrected Christ?

APPLY IT – Applying the truth of Scripture to life

- In what ways has your view of Jesus Christ changed as a result of this year's study of the Gospel of Mark? What change has it made in your beliefs, attitudes, or behavior?
- Do you ever feel as if you don't have the skill or determination to share Christ with others who don't know Him? How does the disciples' example encourage you?
- What can we do in our generation to help the next generations tell of God's mighty deeds? What signs will we see in this generation that will confirm God's word?

ENGAGE IT – Spiritual Practice: Writing a Psalm of Worship (review aloud)

In worship, we intentionally cherish God and value him above all else. Our worship reveals what is important to us. What we love, adore, and focus on forms and shapes us. Using Psalm 145 as a guide, write a psalm that honors Jesus as Lord of All. To begin, take a deep breath, close your eyes and relax. Enjoy a time of solitude with God, trusting that He is present.

- **Pray:** Lord, we desire to worship you and put you first in our lives. Help us to focus on loving you over our own independence, power, success, control, or happiness.
- **Read Psalm 145:** Take the printed handout, a pen, and paper. Read through each verse and choose the phrases you are most drawn to.
- **Questions to consider:** In what way does Christ reign over all? What do I desire in my relationship with God? How can I submit to Christ so that he shines through me?
- **Reflection:** Write a Psalm to God expressing your own desire to worship Christ as Lord, borrowing phrases from the sheet or creating your own.
- **Respond:** Share your experience with the group. If you are willing, read your psalm aloud. How did you feel about this process? What did God reveal?

PRAY IT – Praying together

- **Ministry (within the church):** Pray for the upcoming events of KidsGames, that the teams would experience Jesus' love as they plan to welcome children for Jesus sake.
- **Mission (beyond the church):** Pray for missionary Ellie Goolkasian as she serves the Foundation for His Ministry in Baja. Pray that she would be a vessel of Christ's hope, promise, and future to the children and families of that area.