

CREED

STUDY GUIDE

In this you greatly rejoice, even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been distressed by various trials. — 1 Peter 1:6

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you. — 1 Peter 1:3-4

THE POINT: Because Jesus Christ has risen from the dead, we will never again be without hope.

The Apostles' Creed describes the load-bearing walls of the Christian faith. So far, we have examined God, Jesus, the Cross, the Resurrection, the Ascension, and the Church.

This week, we look at the last load-bearing wall: the Resurrection. Because of the resurrection, we have hope. A hope that allows us to rejoice in the middle of any trial. A hope in an inheritance, which is imperishable and undefiled. An inheritance of a perfect earth and a perfect body for eternity with God. A hope that one day we will come face to face with Jesus and, if we trust in Him and believe He rose from the grave, we will be saved and receive this inheritance.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. **Restoration** is the re-establishment of something that has been repaired back to its original, new condition. This is the one word that best describes what God did for us at the resurrection. Describe a time in your life where your circumstances were so bad you were about to give up hope, where you struggled to have faith in God. How did God restore you?
2. The word “distressed” in 1 Peter 1:6 really means grieving. Peter’s audience is grieving. They are so stressed by their circumstances that they are grieving and about to give up. How can you relate to what they are going through in our current situation with the COVID pandemic?
3. If there was anybody who would understand our need for restoration, that we should rejoice even when we have failed, even when we suffer, it was Peter. He was notorious for letting Jesus down. Peter was always saying to Jesus, “I’ll never let you down,” “I will always have your back.” But it was Peter, on the night when Jesus needed him most, that let him down, over and over again. Can you relate to Peter? How have you let Jesus down and what was His response?
4. Peter learned that you can greatly rejoice in the middle of your trial, not because God is going to remove the trial, but, because of the resurrection of Jesus, you have an inheritance in heaven waiting for you. What do you think of when you think of the word “inheritance?”
5. The inheritance Peter is talking about is a brand new you, a completely restored you, and a brand-new, perfect earth, where we spend eternity with God enjoying this new earth. What do you think this new you and new earth is like?
6. One day, you will come face-to-face with Jesus. Will you trust in Jesus? Do you believe He rose from the grave? Will you have an inheritance waiting in heaven?

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NEXT STEPS

1. **Train Your Soul** - Continue taking a one-minute pause two or more times a day using the One Minute Pause App (www.pauseapp.com) or other reminder. This week, focus on the resurrection and the restoration, hope, and inheritance that it represents. Also, this week, limit your intake of news on TV and social media, especially about the COVID pandemic, to one time per day. Give your soul a rest!
2. **Know Your Why** - Continue to read or recite the Apostles' Creed daily and reflect on its truths. In addition, read and reflect daily on one of the following scriptures: 1 Peter 1:6; 1 Peter 1:3; 1 Peter 1:4; Luke 22:61-62; 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17.
3. **Know What You're FOR** - Be FOR sharing the good news of Jesus Christ. See how you can share the good news of Jesus in a world of bad news this Easter by sharing your story. To learn how, go to: <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/share-your-jesuschangedmylife-story/>

*North Ridge Church is a movement FOR all people
to discover and deepen a relationship with Jesus.*