

# LOVE wins

JOHN 21.1-14

## GROWTH GROUPS NOTES FOR W/C 28 NOVEMBER 2021

**The death of Jesus was not the end; Jesus rose from death— hallelujah. Jesus' resurrection changes everything. "What appeared to be a defeat was actually the greatest victory of all. In his death, Jesus defeated sin. On Easter morning, death too was defeated." Eugene H. Peterson. Jesus' resurrection shows us that LOVE WINS!**

**Spend the first five minutes together** thinking together about Jesus' resurrection. What does it mean to you? Is it important to you that Jesus rose again? Does it matter whether Jesus' resurrection was physical?

**Read John 21.1-14** Have one person read and then take a moment after you have read the passage to let the words sink in. The disciples have witnessed Jesus' brutal death and some of them have seen Jesus having been raised again. Unsure what to do next, they do that which is familiar to them; fishing. **Is there anything for us to learn here that Jesus meets the disciples where they are?**

Jesus' physical resurrection is important in the Gospels. In Chapter 20 Thomas touches the resurrected Jesus. Here, they share breakfast together. Physical (or material) resurrection is a core theme for Christian theology. Jesus' resurrection does not just prove that he had conquered death, but reveals God's plan for all of us. (See 1 Corinthians 15:12) **When you think of the afterlife, do you think in terms of physicality or something more intangible?**

---

**Resurrection is not a consoling opium, soothing us with the promise of a better world in the hereafter. It is the energy for a rebirth of this life. The hope doesn't point to another world. It is focused on the redemption of this one.**

*Jürgen Moltmann*

---

Consider the Moltmann quote above. **Does it challenge, affirm or contradict how you think about the afterlife/the hereafter?**

- **How important is stuff (materiality, physicality) in the future?**
- **Does Jesus' physical resurrection make us rethink how we view the future?**

**Pray together:** finish with a couple of minutes of silence allowing the conversation to linger in your heart and mind. Conclude by saying together:

***Glory be to the Father, and to the Son; and to the Holy Spirit;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen***