



## By His Wounds You Are Healed!

Reflect on the Easter season together: Lent, Palm Sunday, Good Friday and Resurrection Sunday. Share what you discovered afresh about the love of Jesus and the wonder of the gospel.

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### OPENING COMMENT

Jesus died and rose again so He could lift your guilt, liberate you from the enslaving power of sin and give you new life. We can respond by trusting in Him and celebrating this Good News that changes everything!

What stood out to you from Sunday's sermon?

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### READ THE TEXT: 1 Peter 2:24-25

<sup>24</sup>He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. <sup>25</sup>For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

### PART I: BY TRUSTING IN THE FINISHED WORK OF JESUS ON THE CROSS...

#### OUR BURDEN OF GUILT AND SHAME IS LIFTED

1. One of the ways we die to sin is through expiation (*the taking away of guilt through the payment of a penalty*). Jesus paid the penalty for our sin so that our guilt and shame could be crucified.



2. Because we are not meant to carry guilt and shame around with us as Christians, what roles do repentance and confession play in our lives?

## WE ARE LIBERATED FROM THE ENSLAVING POWER OF SIN

1. Another way that we die to sin is by being liberated from the enslaving power of sin. The evidence that believers are in Christ is that the power of sin has been broken in their lives by the work of the Holy Spirit. When sin is crouching at the door, is the fact that Jesus freed you from the bondage of slavery by the power the Holy Spirit on your heart and mind?
2. How might you prayerfully fight sin with this in mind?

## WE CAN LIVE NEW AND TRANSFORMED LIVES

1. The purpose of Jesus' death on a cross was not only to take our guilt and free us from the power of sin but also to empower us to live a new life (*live to righteousness*). Talk about the symbol of baptism: It doesn't end under the water, there's a coming out of the water to born-again life. We can only live *lives of righteousness by dying to sin*.
2. *By His wounds you have been healed*. By looking at the context of this verse, what kind of healing is Peter referring to? Why is the have been (past-tense) so phenomenal?

## PART II: BECAUSE JESUS ROSE AGAIN...

### IT'S CAUSE FOR CELEBRATION

1. *For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls*. We are all going astray from the way of salvation, and proceeding in the way of ruin, until Jesus brings us back from our straying. If Jesus had not been raised, where would this leave us?
2. Read Luke 15:1-7 and discuss the wonders of the gospel that you discover in it.

### WE CAN TRUST HIM COMPLETELY

1. Read John 10:11. If Jesus truly died and rose again and rules and reigns over everything, what kind of credibility does that give Him in our lives? Is there any situation beyond not only His control but His Shepherd-oversight?
2. In what areas have you/do you find it hard to trust Jesus?



## CONCLUSION

God sent His Son Jesus to take on flesh. But it didn't stop there. He lived a spotless life. But it didn't stop there. He died on a cross, making atonement for our sin. But it didn't stop there. On the third day He rose from the grave. But the story doesn't end there. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father interceding for us and lovingly Shepherding us as the gracious Overseer of our souls. Praise God for Easter!

## SHARE & PRAY

- Praise God for the cross and the resurrection of Christ! Praise Him for all that it accomplished.
- Praise Him for the fruit He is producing in your life and the life of our church.
- Pray for the truths of the gospel to lift any burdens of guilt and shame that have been lingering in your life for too long. Repent and leave it at the cross.
- Pray for greater trust in our Saviour in areas of your life where you are finding it hard to trust Him completely.
- Pray for any other needs among you.



*We are looking forward to hosting a Compassion Sunday at both campuses this Sunday. As one of Central's key ministry partnerships, we invite you to discover more about Compassion and how you can get involved personally this Sunday.*

