



**Hope Rising**  
**1 Peter 1:3-12**  
**Week of April 21, 2019**

**Objective of this study:** To understand the implications of the resurrection for you, personally.

[Remember, the main goal of each Growth Group is to allow God's Word to change your heart so that others would see Jesus in you and be likewise changed to be like him. He wants to change the world through us.]

**Welcome (5 minutes)**

What are some favourite memories of Easter?

**Worship (5 – 10 minutes)**

1. Sing a song or two of praise and thanksgiving to God.
2. Spend five minutes in silence asking God to prepare your heart for hearing his word. After the silence, have someone read **Psalm 62:5-8** meditatively to the group. Pause after each phrase letting God speak to you. **Did anything "jump out at you"?**

[It's really important when doing this study that we each think about ourselves specifically and ways we need to grow, not how Christians in general need to grow. Do the hard work of letting the Holy Spirit speak to *your* heart.]

**Word/Work (60-90 minutes)**

1. What stood out from the sermon?
2. How do failure experiences affect your sense of hope?
3. Have you ever felt hopeless? What sorts of things make you, or have made you, feel hopeless?
4. How does hopelessness affect a person's life, choices, relationships?
5. Why do we NEED hope?
6. Review Peter's life. What were some of his failures? What do you think it would have been like for Peter, in each of them? If you had been Peter, how would these experiences have affected you?

John 20:19 - Jesus: "Peace be with you." This was just after they had all failed him. How do you think they felt when they first saw him? Sheepish? Concerned? Shameful?

How do you think they felt when he said those words, "Peace be with you"?

7. What does "Shalom" mean?
8. Read Luke 7:36-50. "Allow yourself to see and feel the weight of your sin. ... And to see Jesus' forgiveness and feel the relief of that. ("I will lift the burden from your shoulders" Ps.81:6.) ... And to let the love and adoration for him well up in your heart and lead you to worship him. He is your Saviour. He bought you SHALOM, peace with God."
9. Spend a few minutes in silence thinking about these questions: What does it mean to you that God had extended Shalom to you? What specific burdens does it lift? **"Now I will take the load from your shoulders" Psalm 81:6a.**

Dealing with our brokenness, and others' brokenness, IS part of what we will need to deal with as we walk with Jesus. It is part of our discipleship. We need to receive and give compassion, grace, and patience. We need humility, honesty and perseverance.

**Sermon quote:** "Jesus called a bunch of broken people to follow him."

10. Read 1 Peter 1:3-12. What are all the things in the passage that give you hope.

### **Prayer**

1. Spend the rest of the time praying for each other. **Praise God together for how he works, and how he allows us to partner with him to accomplish things in his kingdom.**
2. Here are some things you can pray about for the church:

A. That, as a church, we would actively and purposefully engage in the mission of Jesus in Campbell River.

B. Our church board and staff as they lead us to live out the mission of Jesus

C. River Kids ministry as they reach out to kids in our community.

D. **Our missionary of the week:** Pierre and Hannah Jutras. (Check out the church [website](#) for how to pray for them.)

E. **Local CR church:** Gateway Foursquare Church (Matt and Deanna Delblanc.

**Radiant Life March Drive** - Men's and women's underwear, socks, and Depends. Yes, all of these need to be new :)