

THE SEED OF LIFE IN THE SOIL OF DEATH

Tell the story of Jesus, as a group. (Allow all class members to participate and help each other fill in the gaps.)

Read Luke 24:1—12. Why didn't the other disciples believe the women? What does it take for a person to "believe?"

What difference has the story of Jesus made in your life? When did you first realize a change in your life, because of your faith in Christ? (Have people give their testimonies – share when they first came to faith in Christ.)

What does C.S. Lewis mean when he says, "If we insist on keeping Hell (or even earth) we shall not see Heaven: if we accept Heaven we shall not be able to retain even the smallest and most intimate souvenirs of Hell?" What kinds of souvenirs of Hell do we often try to bring into heaven?

Why is it impossible to clean up your life on your own enough to be pleasing to God? What must happen? Why?

What things do people (or we) need to bury? How might God resurrect this into something positive?

Read Galatians 5:19-23. How do you experience this tug of war between the flesh and the Spirit? How do we bury or get rid of these "works of the flesh?"

Read Galatians 5:24-25. Talk about each of these fruit of the Spirit. How does God produce this in you? How much is you and how much is God in seeing these spiritual character traits emerge?

What hope does Jesus' resurrection give to you? Why?