

## **Jesus Is Alive Small Group Guide**

**Warm-up Question:** (Choose one, make up your own, or skip this part all together, depending upon the nature of your group.)

1. What's one of the biggest surprises you've ever experienced?
2. Do you like to dress up, or do you always prefer casual attire?

**Read the following passage:** 1 Corinthians 15:1-8.

Followers of Jesus in the first century lived under the constant threat of persecution. As one scholar puts it:

“The threat to Christians’ lives pervaded the first three centuries ... Even when martyrdom was not being carried out, all that stood between Christians and the executioner was the lack of [an accuser].”

N. Clayton Croy

The historian, then, is bound to ask the question, “Why would anyone become a Christian? What was the perceived benefit?”

**Questions for Discussion** (Choose several that are relevant for your group):

1. Read Philippians 3:7-11. According to this passage and 1 Corinthians 15:1-8, how do you imagine Paul would answer the question, “Why would anyone become a Christian?”
2. If you are a follower of Jesus, why? If you are not, what are some of the primary reasons you are not a follower of Jesus? In your observation, what are some reasons people today become Christians?
3. If someone were to say to you, “I don’t think there’s any actual evidence that Jesus was raised from the dead; people just believe it on blind faith,” how would you respond?
4. Why is the resurrection of Jesus so significant?
5. Accounts of Jesus’ miracles fill the Gospels. What is the significance of these supernatural occurrences?
6. Do you think miracles are much less common today than in the first few decades after Jesus’ death and resurrection? Explain. Should followers of Jesus still expect God to regularly work miracles through human beings? Explain. What factors might impact

how regularly we see or experience miracles?

7. How did Jesus demonstrate His love for people? Do you feel like you have a good grasp of God's love for you? Explain.

**Pray**