**Fellowship CommUnity Group**

 **Discussion Guide for Leaders**

*“Jesus, the Perfect Founder of Salvation”*

 *4-28-19*

1. **Getting To Know Each Other** Ask everyone in the group to answer: **What was something you did as a child for fun, that you wish you would be able to do more often today?**
* **Opening Prayer**. (Either leader, host home or someone who is willing to pray out loud)

*(Notes from message for reference only – use only as needed)*

Our Great Salvation: The Person, the Plan, and the Pathway

EFCA SOF Article 1: “We believe in one God, Creator of all things, holy, infinitely perfect, and eternally existing in a loving unity of three equally divine Persons: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit…”

The Plan of Salvation: Jesus the Son of God became a human being, temporarily lower than the angels in that respect, so that in the end He will be crowned with glory and honor, with ALL things, including the angels, under His feet, subject to His rule.

EFCA SOF Article 4: “We believe that Jesus Christ is God incarnate, fully God and fully man, one Person in two natures…”

Jesus the Perfect Founder of Salvation:

* For those who are tempted.
* For those who suffer.
* For those who need a perfect family.
* For those subject to the lifelong slavery of the fear of death.

**Into The Text** (15 Minutes) (Leaders: This time is not meant to be application yet, this is time in the Word, before we seek to apply truth, we need to understand the truth. The section after this one will focus on application.)

1. Ask everyone to open up to Hebrews chapter 1. Working as a group, list all of the descriptors or facts about Jesus the Son of God that you can find in this chapter. List them out loud, one at a time. Question: Do any of these stand out to you as most remarkable and why?
2. Ask someone to read Hebrews 2:5-9 out loud. What does it mean that the Son of God was made “lower than the angels.” Does this mean that Jesus is inferior to the angels?
3. What is the reason given that Jesus would be crowned with glory and honor? Why does His suffering and death warrant glory and honor?
4. Ask someone to read Hebrews 2:10-13. Why do you think this passage uses the word “founder” of salvation. What does it mean to be the founder of something? Why would it be “fitting” for this founder of this salvation to go through suffering and death?
5. Ask someone to reread Hebrews 2:11,12. Who is the “he” in these verses, who is the “them” referring to, and who is being spoken TO in verse 12? Do you find anything surprising about this verse, and why?
6. Ask someone to read Hebrews 2:14-18. What are the reasons this passage gives for the necessity of Christ becoming a human being in every respect? What would happen, based on this passage, if Jesus had not become a human being?

**Application & Discussion** (15-20 Minutes)

1. **Let’s move to application and discussion**. What aspects of the doctrine of Jesus (fully man, fully God, one Person in two natures) have you had to debate with others? His divinity? His humanity? What part of this doctrine do you think is hardest to understand or believe, and why?
2. What are the reasons that the doctrine of the Trinity is so important to biblical Christianity? Where do you see this doctrine being undermined or questioned in society today?
3. Do you feel equipped to answer questions your friends might have about the doctrine of the Trinity, or the Person of Christ? Spend a few minutes and have the group brainstorm helpful verses or passages to turn to that would help explain these doctrines. Look up a few and jot them down as references.
4. When you are dealing with suffering in your life, in what ways does the fact that Jesus suffered bring encouragement to you. Can anyone give an example of this happening in your life?
5. Do you feel like you are “through fear of death subject to lifelong slavery”? Why or why not? Explain how you feel about your own death someday as a believer, and contrast that with before you put your faith in Christ. Does God want us to be fearful of death?
6. What is one way you can glorify God in your life as a response to this message and passage of Scripture?

**Closing Prayer Time**: (10-12 Minutes) **(Leader Say:**) Let’s close with a time of prayer. Pray for one another, and pray that we would pay close attention to the things we believe about God. Thank Him for being our Savior, and for the deliverance He has brought us, through His own suffering and death.