

MESSAGE STUDY GUIDE GROUP MATERIAL SONGS

# **Community Group Material:**

Ask one person to pray at the beginning of your meeting.

#### Check-in

Check in with each other about how everyone is doing.

Open the Bible. Read Eph. 1:18-23

Have someone read this overview:

### Sermon Summary:

In the book of Ephesians Paul only mentions sin twice (Eph. 1:7; 2:1). We can safely conclude that sin is not the main problem being addressed in this letter. So what is? Something deeper, darker and much more sinister: the evil powers who have us in bondage and are controlling us.

In this message we explore how in his life, ministry, death and resurrection Christ fought with and victoriously defeated those evil powers, and in doing so liberated humans from their control. We also discover that the biblical narrative, from beginning to end, presents a picture of Christ's work as Victor, rather than one who only came for a single event, the crucifixion.

#### Discussion:

- 1. Christ's death on the cross accomplished many things. What are the two main things that were mentioned in the message?
- 2. Describe in your own words these two views of Christ's death.

- 3. Which view tends to get more attention and why?
- 4. Why are both important?
- 5. How do these two aspects of Christ's death relate to God's mission?
- 6. Why is Christ as victor especially important to God's mission?
- 7. How do you apply Christ as victor and Christ as redeemer to your own live?

## End with Prayer.

- Ask the Father for enlightenment to see Christ' victory on the cross and what it means.
- Pray for any needs of people in your group.