

**Life Group Preparation Notes**  
**50 Days That Changed the World**  
**Ascension: What is the big deal?**  
**Tony Nzanza - Sunday 22 May 2022**



**Note for the facilitator:** This is week 5 in the “50 Days that Changed the World” series. As we journey towards Pentecost, we are reminded that after 40 days, Jesus ascended to heaven knowing that the comforter, the Holy Spirit would come, but more than that, He would return in glory as he had departed.

**Worship:** During your time with God, spend a few minutes listening to [The Same God by Elevation Worship](#). Today, call on God to answer prayers, to provide, strengthen and move with power in your life. He was, and is, and is to come.

**Check-In:** Share one new thing you learned last week about someone in the group and how that had impacted you.

**Bible Readings:** Acts 1:1-11; 1 Corinthians 15:13-14; Romans 5:18-19 (NLT); Matthew 28:19-20 (NLT); Numbers 23:19 (NLT); John 16:7 (NLT); Acts 1:11 (NLT); Matthew 24:36 (NLT); Revelation 22:12-13 (NLT)

**Preparation and Discussion for Group Time:**

1. As we reflect on Sunday’s message regarding the significance of The Ascension (Thursday 26 May 2022), take time to reflect on how Jesus’s ascension changed everything in our world. Share with the group your thoughts from the sermon and the impacts on your life as you grow in your relationship with Him.
2. One of the points highlighted by Tony was that it was “Proof that Jesus carried and conquered sin.” In Romans 6:6 we are reminded that we are no longer slaves to sin. Discuss how this scripture impacts you and if you’re still living enslaved to sin. What practical steps can you take to change this and move towards living completely free?
3. Read Acts 1:1-11. What happened in verse 9? Try to envision the event and what you think the Eleven were feeling as Jesus left them. Share with the group what you think they were going through and what promise he gave them?
4. Read Acts 1:11 (NLT); Matthew 24:36 (NLT); Revelation 22:12-13 (NLT). We don’t know the hour when Christ will return but are we ready for it? We heard that Ascension also gives us “The assurance that Jesus is coming back.” Share with the group what it means to you to be ready for Christ’s return.

**Check out and Prayer time:**

Commit to praying for and inviting those you have been sharing your story of forgiveness with to church or to have a meal with you. Commit to sharing updates of the journey with the group.

**Love God:**

- For personal study, here are suggested **YouVersion** devotionals:
  - [Our Security for Eternity The Gospel of John by Love God Greatly](#)
  - [Love God Greatly: Risen](#)

**Love People:**

- Holiday Club is an opportunity for us to sow and invite those in our worlds to participate and hear about God’s love, whether through serving or inviting the kids to attend. Find out more info or sign up to serve
- Winter is approaching and we often buy new things or do a cleanout of our cupboards. Bring your gently used clothes for UTurn and help support those in need.
- Invite someone new to the church to join us at the Welcome Home Dinner on Tuesday 7 June. Sign up via the website or church center app.