

Growth Group Reflection Questions—April 4-10

1. There are many famous bridges in the world. Have you ever crossed one? If so, where was it and how did you do it? (e.g., foot, car, train, etc.)
2. Let's open the Bible together and read the story of the empty tomb. Divide Matthew 28 into three sections and read them aloud: 28:1-10; 28:11-15; 28:16-20. Be inspired by Paul's command to his young friend Timothy to "*focus on reading the Scriptures...*" (1 Tim. 4:13).
3. Someone once said: "There's an inborn drive inside every human being to connect with God." Do you agree with this statement?
4. Dave talked about how every world religion, except for Christianity, focuses on our own "construction efforts" to build a bridge to God. Think about other religious systems that you know something about. In which of them do you see this emphasis on building your own bridge to God?
5. What does God have to say about our efforts to construct a "good deeds bridge" to Him. Read Isaiah 64:6 for the crystal clear answer.
6. When did you first throw your "hard hat" down, and instead cross the Bridge that God provided in sending His Son Jesus to die on the cross for your sins? Share about this time.
7. Read 1 John 5:13 in your growth group and talk about the incredible promise that it contains. How does this verse give you peace?
8. Dave made the following insightful point: "*When you cross that [Jesus] bridge...one thing that's going to happen to you is that you're going to develop a distinct distaste for chasms in your life. In other words, when you have relational problems in your life, it's going to bother you.*" Have you found this to be true? Read 2 Cor. 5:17 which explains the reason for this change.

You could be having a great time in a growth group this week! What's stopping you? Find a growth group on-line at www.santacruzibible.org/growthgroups or call Darren at 429-1162 ext.. 281



For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no one can boast.

Ephesians 2:8 - 9

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

John 14:6

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, trust also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?" Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

John 14:1-6

I. Three Benefits Of The Bridge Made By Christ.

A. The Bridge Made By Christ Brings **_Peace to You**_____.

Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior.

Colossians 1:21

But now, by giving himself completely at the cross, actually dying for you, Christ brought you over to God's side and put your lives together, whole and holy in His presence.

Colossians 1:21 - The Message

B. The Bridge Made By Christ Makes **_You A New Person**_____.

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!

2 Corinthians 5:17

C. The Bridge Made By Christ Gives You **_A New Future**_____.

For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoever would believe in him would not perish, but have everlasting life.

John 3:16