

## Week Eight: Sealing The Healing *Celebrate Resurrection Life!*

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As we mark the completion of our 40 Day Soul Fast, it is appropriate that we seal all that God has revealed and renewed within us with praise and celebration!

This week, in particular, we are celebrating newness of life as we commemorate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ—although He was dead, He now lives!

That resurrection life is now alive in every believer: God *“immense in mercy and with an incredible love . . . embraced us. He took our sin-dead lives and made us alive in Christ”* (Ephesians 2:1 MSG). This is what compelled Paul to say, *“It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me”* (Galatians 2:20 NLT).

At this time of year we are reminded about our true identity in Christ. It is a time to reconnect with God’s original intent for our lives and recall who He has created us to become—a people set apart and set free from the slavery of sin and the bondage of death.

Passover is a time to remember that it is only because of the blood of the lamb—the shedding of Christ’s blood on the cross—that we are cleansed from all unrighteousness.

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### **Feast days and celebrations have always been significant in the life of God’s people.**

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God told the children of Israel still living in Egypt to smear the blood of a sacrificial lamb across the doorposts of their homes and said, *“When I see the blood, I will pass over you”* (Exodus 12:13 NLT). So every Passover, the same Passover Christ celebrated with His disciples before going to the cross—what we celebrate as the Last Supper on Good Friday—we remember that it is the blood of the lamb that brings life, peace, and hope.

Peter said having *“been cleansed by the blood of Jesus Christ. May God give you more and more grace and peace”* (1 Peter 1:2 NLT)—and then added: *“For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to . . . but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect”* (1 Peter 1:18-19 NIV).



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Only the blood of Jesus has the power to cleanse and restore peace to your soul—resurrection power we are reminded works in us each time we partake of the Lord’s Supper “in remembrance of Him.”

Paul wrote about the newness of life this meant to each person willing to smear Christ’s blood across the doorposts of their heart: *“Now we look inside, and what we see is that anyone united with the Messiah gets a fresh start, is created new. The old life is gone; a new life burgeons! Look at it! . . . God put the world square with himself through the Messiah, giving the world a fresh start”* (2 Corinthians 5:17 MSG).

Simply put: *“This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!”* (NLT).

Now that’s something to celebrate!

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## **You are a new person in Christ with massively unlimited potential as you grow in the knowledge of Him.**

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Feast days and celebrations have always been significant in the life of God’s people. At the end of any important season, the people of Israel were commanded to stop and celebrate—or rather commemorate and give glory to the One who brings the blessing and “makes all things new”—year after year, season after season.

Why? Because periodically we must stop to remember in Whose image we are created!

God understood the necessity for His people to establish regular intervals to stop and reconnect—to recall their true identity in relation to their Heavenly Father and the Creator of all things good and perfect.

Seal the healing of your soul by giving thanks and glorifying all that God has done! Stir your soul to bless the Lord and to *“forget not all His benefits”* (Psalm 103:2).

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## **Imagine what God’s nature working through you could do to heal a world made corrupt by evil desires.**

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This is what the Passover celebration is all about. It is a time of remembering and reconnecting with your authentic, divine self—your resurrected, redeemed, recreated self.

You are a new person in Christ with massively unlimited potential as you grow into the knowledge of Him. Peter summed it up this way: *“Through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness . . . He has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature, having escaped the corruption in the world caused by evil desires”* (2 Peter 1:3-4 NIV).

Imagine what that divine nature in—and working through—you could do to heal a world made corrupt by evil desires. Imagine what one healed soul might do to heal the world!

Think of what Mother Theresa, William & Catherine Booth, John Wesley, Charles Finney, Oral Roberts, and Billy Graham did to change the world they lived in! And what about Martin Luther King Jr., Mahatma Gandhi, Nelson Mandela, and Golda Meir—the list goes on and on of people—people who were but one singular person moved by something greater themselves—to bring transformation and healing to bear on the world around them.

Imagine what you could do in the knowledge of God!

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## **We are only at the beginning of walking in the newness of life God has prepared for us!**

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Study the life of David. David pressed into the Spirit of God and then embraced it and made it his own. He had a “heart after God” and a soul that made *“its boast in the Lord”* (Psalm 34:2)—David knew full well that the Lord *“redeems the soul of His servants”* (Psalm 34:22)—he understood and esteemed the value of his own soul and when all else around him seemed to be falling apart, he was able to say “all is well with my soul.”

David never hesitated to cry out to God, *“My soul longs for your salvation; I hope in your word”* (Psalm 119:81 ESV), or to continuously pray, *“Invigorate my soul so I can praise you well, use your decrees to put iron in my soul”* (Psalm 119:169 MSG).

Don’t neglect the life of your soul!

Although we are at the end of our 40 Day Soul Fast, we are only at the beginning of walking in the newness of life God has prepared for us.

The journey has just begun!



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I encourage you to continue to “*possess your souls*” as Jesus told His disciples toward the end of His earthly ministry (Luke 21:19)—and as Joshua instructed Israel in his epic farewell, “*vigilantly guard your souls: Love God, your God*” (Joshua 23:11 MSG).

There is more to come as we continue to press toward the mark of our high calling!

**Romans 6:4 NLT; 7:6 MSG:** *Just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives—now that we're no longer shackled to that domineering mate of sin . . . we're free to live a new life in the freedom of God!”*



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