

# *Sermon Questions for Life Groups*

## **Communion: Mark 10:45**

***Pastor John Mahaffey***

**Sunday, November 6, 2016**

*These questions are generated by several authors for Life Group discussions  
or family or personal devotions*

1. Read Ephesians 2:19-22 and how 'Cornerstone Café' is an appropriate name for our new cafe.
  
2. Read over the passages Mark 10:45 and I Timothy 2: 5- 6. Before going into Pastor John's teaching on 'ransom', describe the worldly context in which this term is used. One would think that the circumstances in which a ransom is demanded would be quite dire and time-sensitive; but when the message is given from the Bible that Jesus is our ransom, why do many people not treat their situation with the same sense of urgency?
  
3. Pastor John focussed on the word "ransom" in verse 45. He expanded on the word "ransom" by giving us six other words which break down the meaning of the word ransom. Discuss each of these as follows:
  - a. release - What is there in the sinful nature that needs release?
  - b. exchange - Picture the court of law in which you stand condemned. All of a sudden, Jesus enters, moves you aside, and says to the judge, I'm now the accused? What are your feelings?
  - c. voluntary - What does Jesus' voluntary gift of himself tell you about divine love for you?
  - d. costly - Read Phil. 2:5-8, Isaiah 52:13-53:12 and consider the costly nature of Christ's sacrifice.
  - e. worth - Our "Worth" came out in talking about Christ paying the ransom for our sins, please read these passages: Romans 5: 6 – 8, I John 4:10, I Peter 3: 17 – 22,

Romans 8: 28 – 39. Reflect on God’s Word and share with one another your gratitude to Christ.

- f. ownership - What is there about your life that would testify to others that you belong to - are owned by - Christ?
4. Jesus has full ownership of us because He made us and He purchased us. Think of the implications of being ‘owned.’ What SHOULD be the day-to-day practicalities of life be like for the ‘owned’ toward the ‘owner.’ In what ways is the ownership of Jesus Christ manifested in your life? (II Corinthians 1:22)
5. Pastor John commented that many people believe that they can secure their own release from bondage, yet they are not able to do so. What types of things hold people in bondage, and what is there about the Christian faith that enables us to be released from these strongholds? What “things” in life have a stronghold on you?
6. Read II Cor 5:21. This is often referred to as the substitutionary atonement. Check out I Peter 2:24, 3:18, and then Isaiah 53:5. How does the passage in Isaiah affect your understanding of the New Testament passages?
7. How would your Christian life differ if you did not have the communion service to remind you of the sacrifice of Christ? How does it help you?