

**THE DEATH AND RESURRECTION OF CHRISTIANITY:
REDISCOVERING THE LOVE AT THE HEART OF THE TRUTH**

ORIENTATION & INSTRUCTIONS FOR DISCUSSION GROUP REVIEWS

Goals for the Book Project

1. To complete the writing of a book over the next 8-12 months.
2. To write it in collaboration with the spiritual community of which I am a part.
3. To write it in such a way that is both theologically sound and practically applicable.

The focus & quality of our discussions

1. Discussions will focus primarily on:
 - a. What difference does this make?
 - b. What might be the practical applications in a congregation?
2. Ground rules:
 - a. Participation is encouraged.
 - b. Varying opinions are O.K.
 - c. Respect is mandatory.
 - d. Everyone gets "air time."

The process & products of a typical discussion

1. Prayer and check-In
2. Identify note taker
3. Open-ended discussion of chapter/section handed out at previous meeting (potential discussion questions):
 - a. What do you see as the key points or issues raised?
 - b. Assuming you agreed with these points or took seriously the issues raised, what impact would this have on your thinking, attitudes, actions about "Church"?
 - c. Assuming your church agreed with these points or took seriously the issues raised, what impact would this have they way it "does Church" (or "is Church")?
 - d. If more Christians and their churches adopted this kind of thinking/being or took seriously the issues raised, what impact would this have on the whole Church?
4. Summary discussion of chapter or section:
 - a. Meditation Scripture: What Scripture text would provide an adequate meditation text for this chapter/section?
 - b. Discussion Questions: What discussion questions would help readers "open up" or "unpack" this chapter/section?
 - c. Applications: What might be some appropriate suggestions for applying these points or seriously exploring these issues in a congregation?
5. Handout next chapter/section for review and then discussion at next month's session.
6. Closing Prayer