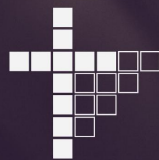


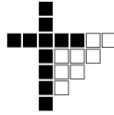
SO
WE
DO
NOT
LOSE
HEART...

2 CORINTHIANS 4:16

REDEEMED
RENEWED
RESTORED



Fall 2026
Growth Group Study



St. Luke Lutheran Church

“Redeemed. Renewed. Restored.” Study overview

*“So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day.”
(2 Corinthians 4:16)*

People are tired of many things: health challenges, politics, family drama, inflation, moving, home improvement projects, funerals ... you name it. And that’s before we consider the awful monotony of our own sin. We are lost, ruined, and broken – and in desperate need of rest.

“Every day feels like a Monday.”

“We’ve gotten used to being tired ever since we became parents.”

“Haven’t I suffered enough?”

“I’ve got to stop making excuses and just do it.”

But there is hope: Jesus promises us something different. Something different from the awful monotony of sin. Something different from the endless cycles we find ourselves in. Jesus comes to us while we are lost, ruined, and broken, so we can be redeemed, renewed, and restored through the cross and empty tomb.

This is true for us individually and true for us as a congregation. As we celebrate 40 years of St. Luke in Haslett this fall, we remember how God gives us

redemption, renewal, and restoration in Jesus – and invites us to rest in Him.

During this study, we will examine how God’s Word uses these terms in a way that makes a difference in our daily lives. We have been redeemed, renewed, and restored – so we can rest, even when life makes us weary.

Session Overview

I: You Were Bought With A Price	Ruth 4:1-17	Redeemed to Redeem
II: So We Do Not Lose Heart	Psalms 51:10-17	Renewed to Renew
III: Salvation Has Come To This House	Luke 19:1-10	Restored to Restore
IV: There Remains A Sabbath Rest	Mark 2:23-28	Living in Rest

Accessing Videos

The videos for this study are available at:

- www.KnowingJesus.org/growth-group-materials OR
- [Youtube.com/StLukeHaslett](https://www.youtube.com/StLukeHaslett)

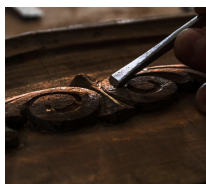
Please contact the church office if you need assistance.

About this study

This four-session study is designed to explore the redemption, renewal, restoration, and the gift of rest that we have in Jesus. Each session will include Scripture passages, a video, and questions to guide your discussion. There will also be time for fellowship and prayer.

Note: The first session of this study will take place Monday, Sept. 21, as part of St. Luke’s Growth Group Kick-Off event. The final three sessions will take

place according to each group's usual meeting schedule.



Session I: You Were Bought With A Price

Redeemed to Redeem

GETTING STARTED

Be sure to welcome any new members to your group. Begin your study with prayer.

What does the word “redeem” mean? How do people use this word in everyday conversation?

READ | Ruth 4:1-17

WATCH VIDEO

**Redeemed. Renewed. Restored – Session 1
(Redeemed)**

DIG IN

With Ruth 4:1-17 in mind discuss the following:

- In ancient Israel, a redeemer was someone who purchased freedom for a relative. He could buy a close relative out of slavery, or – in Ruth’s case – purchase the land of a dead relative and raise up children to perpetuate the name and inheritance of the deceased (v. 5). Being a redeemer was costly; not

everyone could afford to do it (v. 6). What is a costly sacrifice you have been called to make?

- How does the story of Ruth help us understand how Jesus is our redeemer? Compare and contrast the story of Ruth with the story of Jesus.
- Boaz and Ruth were the great-grandparents of King David (v. 17). Later, they appear in the genealogy of Jesus (Matthew 1:5). This family tree is complicated. Boaz's ancestor, Perez, was conceived by deceitful means. Ruth was a Gentile. Jesus' family tree also includes Rahab the prostitute and Bathsheba, with whom David committed adultery. God is faithful even when His people are unfaithful. How has Jesus redeemed a difficult situation in your life?

Read Titus 2:11-14. Paul explains how Jesus has redeemed us: He has purchased us back from the lawlessness of sin, and He has established us as a people for Himself. Notice how this combines both forms of redemption we read about in the Old Testament: Redemption from slavery, and redemption from the end of a family line. Jesus provides greater redemption than any other kinsman redeemer. How does Paul call us to live now that we have been redeemed?

Read 1 Corinthians 6:18-20. We have been bought with a price: the precious blood of Jesus. We are not our own – and that's a good thing, because we can't redeem ourselves. It is far better to belong to Jesus. Jesus calls us to lead pure lives with our bodies, because He has given His body for us. What does it mean to be a temple of the Holy Spirit?

WRAPPING UP

Read Job 19:23-27. Job suffered greatly, but he had hope because of his redeemer – one who would call him from death to life and bring him into God's presence. Job's redeemer is our redeemer: Jesus Christ. How can we extend the redemptive promises of Jesus to others?

Close in prayer by singing the first verse of “I Know That My Redeemer Lives.”

Prayer Requests



Session II: So We Do Not Lose Heart

Renewed to Renew

GETTING STARTED

Begin with prayer. Be sure to thank your hosts for their hospitality and leadership.

What does the word “renew” mean? What sorts of things do we renew in our daily lives?

READ | Psalm 51:10-17

WATCH VIDEO

Redeemed. Renewed. Restored – Session 2 (Renewed)

DIG IN

With Psalm 51:10-17 in mind discuss the following:

- The first three verses of this passage tell us what David used to have: a clean heart, a right spirit, and joy in God’s promise of salvation. His sin with Bathsheba obscured these gifts, so now He asks God to renew them. In short, he needs forgiveness. How does forgiveness renew us?

- In Verses 13-15, David explains how his actions will change once God renews him. He will lead other sinners to repentance (v. 13), and he will praise God in word and song (v. 14-15). Forgiveness allows us to start over. What can you do to bring renewal to others?
- God had promised to establish David's kingdom forever (2 Samuel 7:16). David's sin did not change God's plans. In fact, He brought even greater renewal through Jesus, a descendant of David. What are some ways that Jesus makes people new again?

Read Titus 3:3-8. Paul reminds us that we have been justified by God's grace through Jesus, and this grace has been delivered to us through the "washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit" (v. 5). What kind of washing does Paul mean? How does this washing of renewal make a difference in our daily lives?

Read 2 Corinthians 4:7-18. Christians live at the intersection of life and death. Our outer self is wasting away, but our inner self is being renewed each and every day (v. 16). We do not lose heart: We can persevere through temptation, persecution, illness, and even death, because we have Christ's promises of forgiveness and eternal life. Who in your life needs to hear about the renewal Jesus offers?

WRAPPING UP

Read Isaiah 40:28-31. God renews the strength of the weary. He takes what once was strong and makes it strong again. All who wait for the Lord – all who place their hope in Him – will be renewed. We pray for renewal in this life, and we look forward to perfect renewal in the life of the world to come.

Where in your life would you like to see renewal?

As you close in prayer, ask for patience as you wait for the Lord and the renewal He offers.

Prayer Requests

Session III: Salvation Has Come To This House

Restored to Restore

GETTING STARTED

After beginning with prayer, briefly discuss how this study is going. Share any thoughts you’ve had since your last meeting about redemption or renewal.

What does the word “restore” mean? How is restoration different from renewal?

READ | Luke 19:1-10

WATCH VIDEO

Redeemed. Renewed. Restored – Session 3 (Restored)

DIG IN

With Luke 19:1-10 in mind discuss the following:

- As a chief tax collector, Zacchaeus would have ample opportunity to defraud his neighbors – including fellow Jews – by the authority of the Roman Empire.

His wealth did not come from honest means. Why is wealth such a common idol?

- Zacchaeus climbs a tree to see Jesus, but Jesus starts the conversation. He invites Himself into the home of a notorious sinner. He does this because He has come to seek and to save the lost (v. 10) – that is, to restore sinners to a right relationship with God. What does a restored relationship with God look like?
- After Jesus restores him, Zacchaeus immediately gets to work restoring others. He gives half his possessions to the poor and restores four times more than what he took from others (v. 8). Zacchaeus puts his faith in action by doing for others what Jesus has done for him. How can we do the same?

Read Zechariah 9:9-12. This is a prophecy about Palm Sunday, when Jesus rides into Jerusalem on a donkey and heads toward the cross. God has always disciplined His people for their sin, but He restores them over and above the hardships they have experienced. Jesus saved us while we were still sinners. How does the restoration of Jesus give us hope even on dark days?

Read Galatians 6:1-10. Paul instructs these Christians to restore one another with gentleness. The sin of another person is never an opportunity to gloat or feel superior. Instead, that sin presents an opportunity to restore the person – to bring them back into a right relationship with God and with their fellow Christians. Why is gentleness required for this? Have you seen this done well?

WRAPPING UP

Read Psalm 23. The Lord restores our souls. He provides for all our needs and protects us even as we walk through the valley of the shadow of death. We have no reason to fear any evil, for the Lord who restores us will also call us home to dwell with Him forever.

Close by saying the Lord's Prayer together.

Prayer Requests

Session IV: There Remains A Sabbath Rest

Living in Rest

GETTING STARTED

Begin with prayer. As this study concludes, consider making plans for a servant event with your group – perhaps at the Community Kitchen or preparing a meal for midweek services.

What do you do for rest? Is there a difference between rest and self-care?

READ | Mark 2:23-28

WATCH VIDEO

Redeemed. Renewed. Restored – Session 4 (Rest)

DIG IN

With Mark 2:23-28 in mind discuss the following:

What can we learn from the Old Testament example that Jesus gives to the Pharisees in this story?

- God rested on the seventh day of creation (Genesis 2:3), and He called His people to participate in this rest for their benefit (Exodus 20:11). God does not get tired, and He does not sleep (Psalm 121:4). What does this tell us about the purpose of Sabbath rest?
- Jesus is lord of the Sabbath (Mark 2:28). Not only does Jesus rule over the Sabbath, but He rules over our lives, too. That means we can trust Him to take care of us even while we are resting. How is observing the Sabbath an act of trust?

Read Hebrews 4:8-13. Rest is a big deal to God. He has offered rest in many times and places, including rest in the Promised Land to the Israelites in the days of Joshua. The Israelites disobeyed and did not fully receive this gift of rest, so the promise has been passed down to us through faith in Jesus. God's rest – an eternal and enduring Sabbath in His presence forever – remains before us. Where do we find a foretaste of this eternal rest?

Read Revelation 14:9-13. John sees a great contrast on the last day. All those who turn away from God will never find rest, but will experience God's wrath. All those who endure to the end will find eternal rest and will experience God's blessed presence forever. How do you talk about loved ones who have died in the Christian faith? Where are they, and what are they doing?

WRAPPING UP

Read Matthew 11:28-30. We enjoy many forms of rest, but the greatest rest is found in Jesus. He provides rest for our souls, and He invites all who are weary and heavy-laden to come to Him.

Take a few moments to consider some burdens that you should surrender to Jesus. How can entrusting these things to the Lord help you find rest?

As you close in prayer, ask for God’s help in taking time to rest, especially during busy seasons.

Prayer Requests