# **OPEN YOUR EYES** 10 SEPTEMBER 2023



<sup>38</sup>For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, <sup>39</sup>neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

#### — Romans 8:38–39 (NIV)



FELLOWSHIP GROUP MATERIAL



Start the conversation by saying...

From wars to soaring living costs, health crises, and unforeseen tragedies, external forces shape our everyday lives.



Go deeper with this...



### How do you respond to bad news?

## LINK

Connect to God's truth by sharing...

- There are unseen forces that affect the  $\bullet$ way we live. Those forces include spiritual ones.
- The spirit world is real, and there are spiritual forces for good and evil.
- But instead of focusing on this, the gospel shows us that the battles we face are

already won.

- By resurrecting from the dead, Jesus did more than defy the forces against Him.
- He conquered them, putting them under lacksquareHis rightful authority.
- In fact, all spiritual forces answer to Him.
- By choosing to follow Jesus, we put all things under His power and authority.
- This means we have His power working on our behalf to give us hope in hopeless situations.

**FELLOWSHIP GROUP MATERIAL** 

#### PAUSE

Pick a question and pray together...

## **Discuss Together** (pick one)

- What was one event in your life that shook your sense of security? What happened? How did you respond?
- What uncertainties might you have regarding your spiritual life that you would like to surrender to the supremacy of Jesus?

## **Pray Together** (pick one)

- Declare God's authority and victory over all spiritual forces, both good and evil. If there are any areas in your life that you feel you need to change, surrender them to God.
- Pray for a flourishing and abundant life where you can experience God's best!

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<sup>18</sup>I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, <sup>19</sup>and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength <sup>20</sup>he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, <sup>21</sup>far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come.

– Ephesians 1:18–21 (NIV)

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