



**Becoming
Victorious**
May 16/17, 2020
Romans 8:34-39

After
WORDS

Talking through the message during the week helps you turn what God is saying to you into action steps. These talking points, questions and scriptures are designed to equip you to do the next right thing. If you are leading a group through this guide, don't feel like you have to answer every question. Pick out the questions that will stir up conversation and action around your group.

KEY POINT

The early followers of Jesus were persecuted for their faith. Immediately after the crucifixion of Jesus, His disciples hid out for fear of the Jewish leaders. Stephen was stoned for his uncompromising faith. The church was scattered. They felt defeated and on the run, but it was actually the way the church prevailed. How do we become victorious during this season?

LAUNCH IT

- Imagine a newspaper article about a moment in your life – the headline reads “Victory!” What is the picture?
- Answer the same prompt...about “Defeat!”
- Do you think God views victory and defeat the same way we do?

EXPLORE IT

- Read the following verses. After each, indicate whether you would consider what happened a victory or a defeat if the same thing happened to you today.
 - **Acts – 4:2-3; 4:4; 6:8; 6:9**
 - How are people in Acts responding to Jesus’ resurrection? Why are they responding the way they are?
 - How does that differ from how people respond to Jesus in our culture today? Why do we respond the way we do?
- Read:
 - **Acts 7:55, 59-60** – victory or defeat?
 - **Acts 8:1** – victory or defeat?
 - **Acts 8:4** – victory or defeat?
 - What were the circumstances surrounding the spread of the gospel message?
 - In what ways may that inform our mission at Charter Oak Church? Our small group?
- Read **Romans 8:34-39**
 - This seems like a passage full of contrasts...but it is about a single message: verse 37.
 - From God’s perspective, what does it mean to be a “conqueror?”
 - Can we be “conquerors” without facing the “defeats” of verses 35 and 36?

APPLY IT

- Based on God’s view of victory, in what specific ways may our small group, and myself individually, better welcome
- defeats in life to experience victory in Christ?