

LIFEGROUP MATERIAL | WEEK OF MAY 9TH "The Truth About Hell"

Luke 16:19-26

"There was a rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate was laid a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, 21 who desired to be fed with what fell from the rich man's table. Moreover, even the dogs came and licked his sores. The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried, 23 and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side. And he called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in anguish in this flame.' 25 But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that you in your lifetime received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner bad things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in anguish. 26 And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us."

God doesn't **send** anyone to **hell**. We **send ourselves**.

Our sin was against an **infinite** God, and justice requires an **infinite** punishment.

The reason we think hell is too **harsh** of a punishment is because we don't think our **sin** is that big of a deal.

We've made God in our **own image** to justify our **own lifestyle.**

"It's hard to hear the voice of God when you've already decided what you want Him to say." - Joanna Beck

God turned His back on His **Son** so He wouldn't have to turn His back on **you**!

One of the ways you understand how **much** God **loves** you is seeing what it **cost** Him to **save** you.

LIFEGROUP CONVERSATION

- 1. How does modern America view the doctrine of hell? How is that view different from the view of Jesus?
- 2. Why is it so difficult to accept the reality of hell?
- 3. How does the reality of heaven and hell affect your perspective on God?
- 4. Do you think there's a sense in which the reality of hell helps us understand the incredibly lavish sacrifice that happened on the cross, because it puts the enormous consequence of our sins into perspective?

Think of someone who is in your social group (Family member, friend, co-worker, etc...) who does not know Jesus as their personal Lord and Savior. Commit to praying for courage and boldness to share the Gospel with that person and tell them about the reality of heaven/hell. Have your group hold you accountable throughout the week.