

4.12.20 This Changes Everything | Discussion Questions

Being reminded of the Gospel (1 Corinthians 15:1-11)

Paul reminds the Corinthians of the gospel which he had already preached to them. Why did he need to remind them? Why is it important to be reminded of the gospel, especially regarding current events?

What does the metaphor 'on which you stand' mean? How do you 'stand' in/on the gospel?

What effect did the gospel and God's grace have in Paul's life? (v10) What effect does it have in your life? How has it shown up in your life this week? (Notice the similarity with the teaching in James 2:14-26 about works being the evidence of our faith.)

What if there was no resurrection? (1 Corinthians 15:12-17)

Paul says that if Christ was not raised from the dead, then our faith is in vain / empty (v14) and futile / useless (v17). (Notice the similarity with the teaching in James 2:20.) How EMPTY would your faith (and life) be, if there was no resurrection?

The book of Hebrews describes faith as the opposite of empty. Something that is FULL of substance (Heb 11:1). Where would you put your faith on the empty - full scale (thinking Christ rising from the dead is more likely a myth, hoping that it is true but not really sure, believing in your head that it is true but not having an impact on your life, knowing that it is a reality you base your entire life on)?

Jesus is the Founder and Perfector of our faith (Hebrews 12:1-2)

Even if our faith is weak, the good news is that we can look to Jesus as the founder (author, initiator, originator, pioneer) and the perfecter of our faith (the one who brings it to completion). Faith is something that can grow, trusting Jesus with more and more of our lives. What next step of faith can you take at this time in your life?

Notice that Jesus endured the cross and it's shame because He had JOY knowing what His death and resurrection would accomplish. What ways can you have the same kind of joy today? (See James 1:2-4 as well!)