1 Corinthians 15: 29-58 NOTES:

V.29-32 if there is no resurrection: Live it up.

V.33-34 But since there is a resurrection: Paul says, don't be ignorant. How?

- 1. V.33 Reflect on what is influencing your thinking on these things (stop thinking improperly).
- 2. V.34 Sober minded/come to your senses and stop sinning (start thinking properly).

V.35-44 Begins to address ignorance about the resurrected condition.

- 1. Spiritual body is glorious
- 2. V.45- 49 Jesus is a better Adam

V.50-54 Paul answers the question they seem to have had: *What about those alive at Christ's return*? **v.55-56** Why does death sting so much? It is sin and *the wages of sin is death*. The power of sin is the law. Sin has power because the Law reveals that we've missed the mark.

V.57-58 Summary- the resurrection of Christ is the anti-venom of death's sting.

So, the big question in Ch: 15: what are the implications in light of Jesus leading the way with his resurrection, that he is returning, and we will also be resurrected into a glorious state and that all things will be subject to Jesus and turned over to God's authority?

- 1. **Implications for my identity: (Significance/meaning)** Death says that I'm not too important to die. The resurrection tells me I'm so valued that Jesus was willing to die for me.
- 2. **Implications for how we live: (purpose):** V.20 He literally paid the entrance fee for us. V.57-Not by what we've done, but he's done. That brings **freedom**. Consequently:
 - a. We hold to earthly things lightly. Philippians 3:20–21 But our citizenship is in heaven...
 - b. V.58 Strong and immovable. Stand firm in what you believe.
 - c. **As unto the Lord**. V.58 *Working enthusiastically for the Lord*. *Knowing our labor in the Lord is not in vain*. All activity becomes meaningful if done for the Lord (as worship).
- 3. Implications of how we die. (destiny) Ps.90 Teach me to number my days.
 - a. Hope: Hebrews 2:14–15 ... that <u>through death he might destroy the one who has the</u> <u>power of death</u>, that is, the devil, <u>and deliver all those who through fear of death were</u> <u>subject to lifelong slavery</u>. Rev. 21:3-4 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying... He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. <u>He will wipe away every tear from their eyes</u>, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore...
 - b. **Warning**: John 5:28-29 a time is coming when all who are in the graves will hear his voice and come out those who have done good things, to the resurrection of life, but those who have done wicked things, to the resurrection of condemnation.

Grow Group Questions:

What does death reveal to me about Jesus? About myself? About life?

Why does the resurrection give my life meaning?

How does Christ's resurrection change how I live my life and what I do with my resources?

Why does Solomon say in Ecclesiastes that it is better to be in the house of mourning than the house of feasting?

What are the implications that this life is not the end and that all will be resurrected?