

1 Corinthians 15:12-34

Small Group Guide: The Power and Promise of Resurrection

Key Takeaways:

1. The resurrection of Jesus is foundational to Christian faith and hope.
2. Without the resurrection, our faith would be futile and we would still be in our sins.
3. The resurrection is the proof that Jesus' sacrifice was perfect and accepted by God.
4. Jesus' resurrection is the "first fruits" that guarantees our future resurrection.
5. Our belief in the resurrection should impact how we live our daily lives.

Discussion Questions:

1. Why is the resurrection of Jesus so crucial to our faith? How would our beliefs be different if there was no resurrection?
2. The pastor mentioned that some Corinthians doubted their own resurrection. What are some reasons people today might struggle to believe in bodily resurrection?
3. How does Paul's willingness to face danger and persecution for the gospel challenge your own commitment to Christ?
4. The sermon touched on the idea that "evil company corrupts good habits." How have you seen this play out in your own life or the lives of others?
5. What does it mean to "awake to righteousness" in our current cultural context?
6. How does the promise of resurrection impact how you view death and suffering?

Practical Applications:

1. Spend time this week meditating on 1 Corinthians 15:58: "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord." How can you apply this verse to your life?
2. Identify one area where you need to "awake to righteousness." What specific steps can you take to grow in this area?
3. Practice sharing your faith with someone this week, emphasizing the importance of Christ's resurrection.
4. Evaluate your close relationships. Are there any that might be negatively influencing your walk with Christ? How can you address this?

Closing Prayer:

Close the session by thanking God for the hope we have in the resurrection. Pray for strength to live out the truths discussed and for opportunities to share this hope with others.