

1 Corinthians 15:12-34 We're foolish if He's not raised, but since He has been...

for the week of Easter: 1 April 2024.

Warm up #1: is there a group getting to know one another activity to do? Is there a significant event for a group member to ask about/ share with the group?

OR

Warm up #2: When you first heard about Jesus' resurrection, what was your reaction to it?

As we come to think about the resurrection:

What are some reasons why people might say 'there is no resurrection'?

i.e. the obvious: our experience is of death (don't let 'boy from heaven' stories muddy the waters, even he still dies);

the scientific: it doesn't happen because it can't happen (non-repeatable experiment).

the worldview: big bang we live we die that's it.

The agnostic: religion is man-made, and so therefore so is resurrection / heaven / new creation.

The Greek philosophical reason: immortality of the soul but not the body (Christians believe in body and soul being raised).

Lots of reasons!

Pray and read 1 Corinthians 15:12-34

Any first reactions or questions?

How many 'if this..., then that...' statements are there in vv12-19?

Which of these 'dead-men-don't-rise' consequences stands out to you and why?

When you hear the word firstfruits, what is the first picture that comes to mind?

What does it mean (acc to vv20-28) that Christ is the 'firstfruits' of the resurrection?

There's a sure connection between He and us: As he is, so we will be; It means the harvest has started! Just as Christ has been raised first, so God will raise those who've died in Christ, and all of us who hope in Christ!

What does Christ's resurrection mean for his enemies according to v24-28?

On v28: God all in all. When the Lord Jesus completes his conquest, God will be supreme over everything everywhere. And God: Father Son and Holy Spirit, will be received as wonderfully supremely trustworthy by everyone in every place.

What decisions are people making because he is risen? (v29-32)

In v32-34, by their lifestyle what message are the Corinthians Christians living out?

The implication is they are living a 'dead-men-don't-rise' lifestyle, because Paul has to correct them (v34). And here he writes not only to dispel their wrong thinking but also to correct their wayward living.

What are two or three important things for us to take from this passage?

There are loads of important things: worldview shaping things (he has risen, he is Lord) as well as practical things (stop living like there is no day of accountability coming: we will meet Him; Hope, death doesn't win. There is a life beyond this life etc).

Turn these into prayer, and bring other personal / ministry needs to God in prayer.

[[Big Idea: Know he is risen & live the risen life]]