



1 Corinthians 15:12-28 (Easter Sunday) Small Group Questions

- Have someone read 1 Corinthians 15:12-28. What words repeat? Why do you think Paul uses these words so many times? What might he be trying to emphasize?
- What do verses 12-19 seem to be about? What is Paul's argument?
 - Ben preached that this part of the passage refers to life *if* the resurrection is not true. What are some of the consequences that Paul says would be true if the resurrection were false?
 - Why would your faith be "in vain"?
 - Why would we be "misrepresenting God"?
 - Why would Christians be "most to be pitied" if Christ were not raised from the dead?
 - In your own words, then, restate how our lives would be different if the resurrection were not true.
 - How do people act who "have hope in this life only"? What characterizes their lives?
 - Paul wrote this because some of the people in Corinth were denying the reality of the resurrection. Do you think that this kind of denial still happens? Where do you see that happening?
 - How might we deny the reality of the resurrection in the ways that we live?

- If the resurrection is true, however, then everything is changed, Ben said. In verses 20-28, what does Paul say the resurrection has changed? What are some of the implications of the truth of the resurrection?
 - Paul says that Christ has been raised “in fact.” What do you think makes him so certain about the reality of the resurrection?
 - If you have faith in Christ, what was it that made you confident in the reality of the resurrection?
 - What does it mean that “all shall be made alive in Christ”? Who is the “all”? What does it mean that Christ is the “firstfruits” of this reality?
 - In what ways, then, does the resurrection affect our spiritual life? In what ways does it affect our physical bodies?
- What does the resurrection of Jesus do to death?
 - Why is death “the last enemy to be destroyed”?
 - How should Christians think about death in light of its future destruction?
 - Given the reality of the resurrection, how do Christians balance hope in the future with grieving in the present? In other words, death is still a heartbreaking reality, yet it now propels us to the throne of God, and one day it will not exist anymore, so how do we balance our grief with our faith?
- What do you think it means that one day “God may be all in all”? Why is this ultimate unity with God the great and final implication of the resurrection? In other words, how does the resurrection make us united with God and each other?