

Connect

Think of a time you worked hard for a future reward (like studying for a test or saving for a big purchase). How did that future hope change your actions in the present?

Verses - 1 Corinthians 15:29-34 (CSB)

READ ALOUD:

29 Otherwise what will they do who are being baptized for the dead? If the dead are not raised at all, then why are people baptized for them? 30 Why are we in danger every hour? 31 I face death every day, as surely as I may boast about you, brothers and sisters, in Christ Jesus our Lord. 32 If I fought wild beasts in Ephesus as a mere man, what good did that do me? If the dead are not raised, Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die. 33 Do not be deceived: “Bad company corrupts good morals.” 34 Come to your senses and stop sinning; for some people are ignorant about God. I say this to your shame.

Briefly restate the context. How is it encouraging, challenging, comforting, etc.?

Study

Answer the questions together based on the Bible verses:

1. In vv.29-32, Paul argues that without the resurrection, both baptism and his own suffering for the gospel would be pointless. Why does a future hope make present actions and sacrifices meaningful?

2. In v.33, what does Paul mean by "Bad company corrupts good morals"? How does this relate to people who don't believe in resurrection?

3. The sermon contrasted two opposite approaches to life based on v.32. What is the difference between living for eternal satisfaction (resurrection hope) versus living just to "eat and drink" for today?

4. Paul's command in v.34 is to "Awake to righteousness, and do not sin" (or "Come to your senses"). How does forgetting the reality of the resurrection lead to sinful attitudes and actions? (Like the anger mentioned in the message.)

Share

Discuss 1:
Pastor Takeshi talked about fruit-picking and he compares life without resurrection to filling a net with fruit but not being able to take it home. How does this help explain why we should focus on eternal things instead of just enjoying life now? How do you do this?

Discuss 2:
The pastor gave examples of getting angry at work or in ministry when our desires aren't met, which shows we are living as if there is no resurrection. How is this similar to showing "ignorance about God," and what can we learn about finding true joy through submission instead of our own desires?

Minister to one another through sharing specific prayer requests.