

Week of September 7, 2025 - Resurrection

Small Group Lesson 33

Connect

What's one thing you believed as a child was impossible—perhaps didn't fully understand it, but came to learn it was possible?

Verses - 1 Corinthians 15:12-19 (CSB)

READ ALOUD:

12 Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say, "There is no resurrection of the dead"? 13 If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised; 14 and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation is in vain, and so is your faith. 15 Moreover, we are found to be false witnesses about God, because we have testified wrongly about God that he raised up Christ – whom he did not raise up, if in fact the dead are not raised. 16 For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. 17 And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is worthless; you are still in your sins. 18 Those, then, who have fallen asleep in Christ have also perished. 19 If we have put our hope in Christ for this life only, we should be pitied more than anyone.

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

Study

Answer the questions together based on the Bible verses:

1. In verse 12, Paul exposes a contradiction. Why is it inconsistent to believe in Christ's resurrection but deny the resurrection of the dead?

2. According to verses 14–15, what are the consequences if Christ has not been raised? How does this affect our faith, hope, and even our credibility as witnesses of the hope we have?

3. Verse 17 says, "you are still in your sins." Why is the resurrection essential for first our faith and then our justification? What is the connection?

4. In verse 19, why does Paul say that without resurrection, Christians "should be pitied more than anyone"? Why would Paul suggest that kind of reaction is justified?

Share

Discuss 1:
Imagine you are assigned on a group project for school or work. So you forge ahead doing most of the work yourself. In the end, you get the same grade or bonus as the other members. What is your honest, gut reaction in that moment? Would you be justified for feeling dissatisfied? Why or why not?

Discuss 2:
How does knowing Christ rose from the dead give you courage or peace in the face of suffering, loss, or uncertainty? What's one way you can live out resurrection hope today, despite such hardship in your life?

Minister to one another through sharing specific prayer requests.