

WALK THE TALK //////////////////////////////////////

This page is designed for you to apply what you have learned from the Scriptures. Our goal is not just “to know” but to “act upon what we know.” (His Word, Our Walk!) We encourage you to discuss the following questions with family, friends and your group.



FOR DISCUSSION:

1. What have been your struggles with the concept of a resurrection? Do you think it is a barrier to some?
2. Many believe in an “afterlife” but Christianity is unique because of the promise of bodily resurrection. What are your thoughts on this?
3. Which of Paul’s testimonies of the resurrection are most helpful to you and why?
4. What was most helpful in this study?
5. What questions would you ask after studying this passage?

BELIEVE

- B - BEHOLDERS of the Resurrection (1-11)
- E - ESSENTIALNESS of the Resurrection (12-19)
- L - LESSONS of the Resurrection (20–28)
- I - INQUIRIES about the Resurrection (29–34)
- E - ESSENCE of the Resurrection (35–49)
- V - VICTORY of the Resurrection (50–57)
- E - ENCOURAGEMENT of the Resurrection (58)



March 24 & 25, 2018 | Victory #1 | 1Cor. 15:1-11 | Dennis Miller, pastor

TWO LESSONS FOR THIS SERIES

1. The resurrection of the LORD and the PROMISE of the same for His followers is the centerpiece of Christianity.
2. There are LOGICAL reasons for believing in the resurrection.

THE REASON FOR THIS FOCUS ON THE RESURRECTION?

1. Paul dealt with quite a few ERRORS in theology and behavior in 1 Corinthians. He saved the most IMPORTANT theological issue for last.
2. Since the resurrection is the HEART of Christianity, Paul wanted the Corinthians to have a SOLID understanding.
3. Some of the Corinthians didn’t BELIEVE in the resurrection.
1Cor. 15:12 But if it is preached that Christ has been raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead?
4. When Paul talks of the resurrection, he is not speaking only of an AFTERLIFE, (which many people today and even the Corinthians affirmed) but of a BODILY resurrection that has PHYSICAL characteristics.
5. Jesus was the FIRST to rise from the dead, receive a NEW body, and NEVER die again, which is the picture of what will happen to ALL who follow Him.

FOUR WITNESSES OF THE RESURRECTION

1. The Testimony of PERSONAL Experience

1Cor. 15:1 Now, brothers and sisters, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. 2 By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain.

a. Again, Paul calls the Corinthians “BROTHERS” to affirm their FAITH and his relationship with them.

b. He is only REMINDING them of something they had FULLY accepted and had built their LIVES around.

c. This Gospel (which is based on the resurrection) is SALVATION if we CONTINUE in it.

Luke 8:15 But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop.

2. The Testimony of Scripture’s FULFILLMENT

1Cor. 15:3 For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, 4 that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures,

a. Paul had received this understanding from his TIME with Christ PRIVATELY.

Gal. 1:12 I did not receive it from any man, nor was I taught it; rather, I received it by revelation from Jesus Christ.

— He uses the SAME language in chapter 11.

1Cor. 11:23 For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread,

b. The WORDS Paul quotes were apparently the first CREED.

— *that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures,*

— *that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures,*

c. Paul was not referring to NEW Testament Scriptures as, for the most part, they had NOT yet been WRITTEN.

Luke 24:27 And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.

Luke 24:44 He said to them, “This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms.”

— DIED for our SIN according to the Scriptures?

Is. 53:5 But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.

— RAISED from the DEAD according to the Scriptures?

Psa. 16:10 because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead, nor will you let your faithful one see decay.

3. The Testimony of the EYE Witnesses

1Cor. 15:5 and that he appeared to Cephas, and then to the Twelve. 6 After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers and sisters at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. 7 Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles,

a. SIMON PETER

Luke 24:33 They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together 34 and saying, “It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.”

b. The TWELVE (actually 10 and 11).

c. More than 500 followers at the SAME time (some of whom were DEAD as Paul wrote 1 Corinthians, but most were ALIVE).

d. JAMES — the half-brother of Jesus. *(No record in Scripture.)*

Gal. 1: 19 I saw none of the other apostles—only James, the Lord’s brother.

e. ALL of the apostles — (120?)

4. The Testimony of a Transformed LIFE

1Cor. 15: 8 and last of all he appeared to me also, as to one abnormally born. 9 For I am the least of the apostles and do not even deserve to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. 10 But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them—yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me. 11 Whether, then, it is I or they, this is what we preach, and this is what you believed.

a. Paul is the FINAL evidence as one “abnormally born” (ἐκτρώμα ektrōma, an aborted FETUS).

— Some suggest he was “untimely born” AFTER the disciples.

— Others think that this was a CRUEL nickname for Paul by his enemies because he was SMALL (Paul = “the little one”).

2Cor. 10: 10 For some say, “His letters are weighty and forceful, but in person he is unimpressive and his speaking amounts to nothing.”

b. No matter the CORRECT answer, Paul’s use of “ektrōma” reminds us that God brought him to LIFE.

c. And because of God’s grace, Paul was a CHANGED person and worked hard for the sake of the KINGDOM.