

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. Do you have friends or family members that struggle with the concept of a resurrection? How do you deal with it?
2. In all generations, there are people who deny the resurrection because of their culture (eg. Plato).
3. What did you learn from the list of “bad news” items and how can it be helpful?
4. Paul teaches that the resurrection is only the beginning. Is this a new thought? If so, how is it beneficial to you?
5. What excites you about that which is to come?

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 31 & April 1, 2018 | Victory #2 | 1Cor. 15:12-28 | 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 STRUGGLE WITH THE STORY OF THE RESURRECTION

1. The idea of a resurrection, particularly including a physical BODY, is where many people might DRAW the LINE.
2. Paul had even faced this very REACTION immediately before going to Corinth on his FIRST visit.

Acts 17:16 While Paul was waiting for them in Athens, he was greatly distressed to see that the city was full of idols. . . .18 A group of Epicurean and Stoic philosophers began to debate with him. Some of them asked, “What is this babbler trying to say?” Others remarked, “He seems to be advocating foreign gods.” They said this because Paul was preaching the good news about Jesus and the resurrection.

Acts 17:32 When they heard about the resurrection of the dead, some of them sneered, but others said, “We want to hear you again on this subject.” 33 At that, Paul left the Council. 34 Some of the people became followers of Paul and believed. Among them was Dionysius, a member of the Areopagus, also a woman named Damaris, and a number of others.

3. Today MANY people, even those from other faiths, have no trouble with Jesus as a great prophet, or TEACHER, or even that He died for others. But the resurrection STOPS them.

THE BAD NEWS

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? 13 If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. 14 And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith. 15 More than that, we are then found to be false witnesses about God, for we have testified about God that he raised Christ from the dead. But he did not raise him if in fact the dead are not raised. 16 For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised either. 17 And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins. 18 Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ are lost. 19 If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.*

1. Some in the Corinthian church DENIED the resurrection and some believed that Jesus was raised from the dead, but that His followers would not experience the same — at least BODILY.

— The common teaching among Greeks was DUALISM. Plato taught that the spirit was good but the body was EVIL.

2. So, Paul uses IF statements to portray the BAD news if there is NO resurrection. The word IF is used 7 times in these verses.

No.	Verse	If Statements
		<i>If there is no resurrection, then . . .</i>
1	13	Jesus is still DEAD
2	14	I am a FOOL as are all PREACHERS
3	14	You are a FOOL as are all LISTENERS
4	15	We are all LIARS
5	17	Your FAITH is foolish
6	17	Your sins are still waiting for PAYMENT and, worse than that, you have no one to PAY for them.
7	18	Your dead loved ones are without HOPE
8	19	Christians are the world's most PATHETIC people

THE GOOD NEWS

1Cor. 15:20 *But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, . . .*

1. Paul gave FOUR evidences in the previous verses that were POWERFUL. (*Testimony of believers, testimony of Scriptures, testimony of eye witnesses, testimony of a vastly changed life!*)

2. Most of the Corinthian church ACCEPTED the resurrection.

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.*

THE REASON BEHIND THIS GOOD NEWS

1Cor. 15:20 *But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. 21 For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. 22 For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. 23 But each in turn: Christ, the firstfruits; then, when he comes, those who belong to him. 24 Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power. 25 For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. 26 The last enemy to be destroyed is death. 27 For he “has put everything under his feet.” Now when it says that “everything” has been put under him, it is clear that this does not include God himself, who put everything under Christ. 28 When he has done this, then the Son himself will be made subject to him who put everything under him, so that God may be all in all.*

The REASON for this good news is that the resurrection of Jesus is just the BEGINNING! *Five things can now happen!*

1. The PROMISE (vs. 20-21) — *“The Firstfruits of those . . .”* Firstfruits is a day of the year (Easter) and it's also a promise to all who FOLLOW Christ.

Num. 28:26 “On the day of firstfruits, when you present to the LORD an offering of new grain during the Festival of Weeks, hold a sacred assembly and do no regular work.

Lev. 23:11 He is to wave the sheaf before the LORD so it will be accepted on your behalf; the priest is to wave it on the day after the Sabbath.

2. The PRINCIPLE (vs. 22) — *“For as in . . .”* As in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. The act of ONE person (Adam and Jesus) affected ALL those who follow them. These are the ONLY two men who never had a HUMAN father and therefore had the ability to affect all who came after them.

3. The PRIORITY (vs. 23) — *“But each in turn: . . .”* First CHRIST, then the CHURCH, then the rest of mankind.

4. The PLAN (vs. 24-27) — *“Then the end will come . . .”* Every ENEMY of God and man will be thoroughly defeated.

5. The PRIZE (vs. 28) — *“When he has done this . . .”* The Heavenly Father will have all things placed under Him and He will receive the GLORY due to Him.

Phil. 2:10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.