



message

RESURRECTION MATTERS

RESURRECTION HOPE | APRIL 16/17, 2014 | PASTOR MATT ERICKSON | 1 CORINTHIANS 15:12-19

"If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised." (1 Corinthians 15:13)

The Importance of Good Thinking in Our Faith

7 Reasons Why the Resurrection Matters—"If there is no resurrection of the dead, then..."

1. Jesus Christ did not rise (vv 13, 16)
2. The message of the gospel is useless (v 14a)
3. Our faith is useless and futile (vv 14b, 17)
4. The apostles are liars about God (v 15)
5. We are still in our sins (v 17)
6. Those who have already died in Jesus Christ are lost (v 18)
7. Christians should be pitied more than anyone else (v 19)

Turning the Negatives into Positive Statements

discussion

FOR LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION, CLARIFICATION & PRAYER

1. When did you come to faith in Jesus as the one who died on the cross and rose from death? How did that happen? What were keys in your first steps of faith?
2. This weekend at Eastbrook we continue to explore themes of the resurrection of Jesus, particularly why the resurrection matters to our faith. Whether you are alone or with a small group, ask God to speak to you and then read 1 Corinthians 15:12-19 aloud.
3. Paul's words here in 1 Corinthians 15:12-19 involve a lot of logical reasoning and repetition of certain words or phrases. Take some time to identify repeating words or phrases. Also take some time to trace out Paul's "if...then" statements. What do you notice?
4. What can you gather about questions that were arising within the church at Corinth about Jesus? Why do you think these questions may have come forth?
5. In verses 13-18, what does Paul identify as results of not believing in the resurrection of Jesus from death? Why are these things important?
6. Why do you think Paul concludes this section by saying, "If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied?"
7. Try turning the negative implications of no belief in the resurrection around to positive statements. If we do believe in the resurrection of Jesus, then what truths can we hold on to?
8. What is one thing God is speaking to you through this study? If you are alone, write it down. If you are with a small group, discuss these things with one another.

[Next week we continue our exploration of resurrection themes by looking at "Resurrection Timing" from 1 Corinthians 15:20-34.]