

Final Thoughts

1 Corinthians 15

Week of January 14, 2024

BELONG

Ask this Ice Breaker Question: If you could live forever on Earth, what would be your top bucket list experience items? And why these?

BELIEVE

Have someone in your group read aloud: 1 Corinthians 15

Ask these questions to prompt group discussion:

- 1. In verses 1-11, Paul delivers to the Corinthians the core message of the gospel: Jesus Christ lived, died, was resurrected, and appeared to people in history. Why do you think. Paul mentions the part about Jesus appearing to people in history?**

Leader Context:

- *The historical record of Jesus is the most compelling argument for the reality of HIS divinity.*
- *It isn't just that a few ordinary people spoke of resurrection. It is that the most famous historians in the world at the time spoke of his resurrection.*

- 2. Resurrection has implications for history, but also for personal devotion in this life. How often do you think about the resurrection in your personal devotional life? In prayer? In considering your plans and life goals?**

Leader Context:

- *That we will be resurrected impacts our choices and priorities.*
- *It changes our approach to suffering, joy, and service.*
- *It gives us vocabulary to help us understand that we can be overcomers.*

- 3. In verse 32 Paul paraphrases the Greek philosopher Epicurious, saying, "If the dead are not raised, Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die." If the resurrection was proven to be untrue, do you think it would change your**



beliefs? Your church participation? Your giving practices?

Leader Context:

- *Answers may vary.*
- *However, it seems both Biblical and logical that everything hinges on the resurrection.*
- *Paul is listing this statement at the end of the chapter to make sure people understand the stakes. It is either resurrected Jesus or nothing. There are no moral victories for being a good person or a good church attender.*

- 4. The resurrection has past implication for history, present implications for our devotion. But it also has future implications. How might the hope of resurrection in the future motivate you to face present challenges and remain engaged in Christian ministry?**

BECOME:

- 5. Again, part of the resurrection includes the idea that we will live forever with Jesus in a new heaven and new earth in a new body. In light of our discussion of the resurrection, have you changed your answer to the opening question? Since you are going to live forever in a new Heaven and new Earth, what is it that Jesus is calling your to that you need to stop putting off in this life?**