Together: Study of 1 Corinthians "Why the Resurrection is so Important" 1 Corinthians 15:12-34 November 25, 2018 / Pastor Shawn

We Believe Christianity is a <u>Relationship</u> with the <u>Resurrected</u> and Living Savior.

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. 1 Corinthians 15:12-13

If the Resurrection did not happen, then:

1. Our <u>preaching</u> is pointless.

¹⁴ And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith. v.14

2. Our faith is built on <u>lies</u>.

¹⁵ More than that, we are then found to be false witnesses about God, for we have testified about God that he raised wrist 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. vs. 15-16

3. Our sins <u>condemn us</u>.

¹⁷ And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins. v. 17

4. Our eternity is <u>uncertain</u>.

¹⁸ Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ are lost. v.18

5. Our moral <u>lifestyle</u> is pointless.

¹⁹ If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

³⁰ And as for us, why do we endanger ourselves every hour?
³¹ I face death every day — yes, just as surely as I boast about you in Christ Jesus our Lord.
³² If I fought wild beasts in Ephesus with no more than human hopes, what have I gained? If the dead are not raised, "Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die."

6. Our <u>religious</u> practices are worthless.

²⁹ Now if there is no resurrection, what will those do who are baptized for the dead? If the dead are not raised at all, why are people baptized for them? v.29

If the Resurrection did happen, then:

1. Our <u>eternal life</u> is secure!

²⁰ But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the first fruits 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. vs.20-22

2. Our <u>resurrection body</u> is guaranteed!

²³ But each in turn: Christ, the firstfruits; then, when he comes, those who belong to him. v.23

3. Jesus' eternal <u>kingdom</u> is real!

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 lat 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. vs. 24-28

My Response: Come to my <u>senses</u> and quit <u>sinning</u>.

³³ Do not be mislead: "Bad company corrupts good character." ³⁴ Come back to your senses as you ought, and stop sinning; for there are some who are ignorant of God - I say this to your shame.

1 Corinthians 15:33-34

Discussion Questions

- 1. What was your "take-away" from Sunday's message? Why?
- 2. Is the resurrection of Jesus essential for salvation and living the "Christian" life or is the cross alone sufficient? If so, why? If not, why not?
- 3. What difference/what benefits to your life does the reality of Jesus' resurrection bring? What do you lose if there's no resurrection? What do you gain if there is a resurrection?
- 4. What would you say (could you say) to a friend who is doubting the claims of Jesus' resurrection?
- 5. How does the resurrection of Jesus differentiate the claims of Christianity from all other religions?
- 6. Who is one, non-believing friend, with whom you could share the gospel of Jesus? Share with your group who this person is and how they can support you in sharing Jesus with your friend.