

# **Life Group Guide 1 Cor 15:35–49 “What About the Resurrection” For the Sermon Preached on Mar 12 and For Use in Life Groups through Mar 19**

## **Icebreaker Questions**

Easter is only a month away. Brainstorm with the class. Who are the unchurched people you plan to invite to church on Easter?

## **Read the Biblical Text: 1 Cor 15:35–49**

### **Pastor Richard’s Sermon Outline**

- I. The Process of the Resurrection (vv. 35a, 36-38)
  - a. The question: “How are the dead raised up” (v. 35a)?
  - b. The illustration (vv. 36-41)
    - i. Illustration from Farming (vv. 36-38)
    - ii. Illustration from Biology (v. 39)
    - iii. Illustration from Creation (vv. 40-41)
- II. The Product of the Resurrection (vv. 36b, 42-44)
  - a. The question: “What will the resurrection body be like” (v. 36b)?
  - b. The illustration (vv. 42-44)
    - i. Corruption/Incorruption (v. 42)
    - ii. Dishonor/Glory (v. 43a)
    - iii. Weakness/Power (v. 43b)
    - iv. Natural/Spiritual (v. 44)
- III. The Promise of the Resurrection (vv. 45-49)
  - “It is written” (v. 45a)
  - a. The question: How can we be sure the resurrection will occur?
  - b. The illustration (vv. 45-49)
    - i. First Adam – The Last Adam (v. 45)
    - ii. The First Man – The Second Man (vv. 46-49)

### **Observations of the Biblical Text**

1. What two questions does Paul anticipate in v. 35?

---
2. To what does Paul compare the resurrection in vs. 36-37?

---
3. According to vs. 38-39, what has God chosen (determined) to be true in the world?

---
4. Paul expands his illustration in v. 40. What two kinds of bodies are there in relation to humans?

---
5. According to vs. 40-41, are both kinds of bodies glorious?

---
6. In vs. 42-44, what words does Paul use to describe life on earth as we live in a sin-filled world?

---
7. In vs. 42-44, what words does Paul use to describe our heavenly bodies in the resurrection?

---

## **Life Group Guide 1 Cor 15:35–49 “What About the Resurrection” For the Sermon Preached on Mar 12 and For Use in Life Groups through Mar 19**

8. Who is Paul talking about in vs. 45-49? Which two people is he comparing?

---

### **Interpretation of the Biblical Text**

1. According to Paul in vs. 36-38, how is your body and your resurrection like a kernel of wheat? Why might Paul use an illustration like this to teach us about the resurrection?

---

2. According to Paul in vs. 38-41, how is your body and your resurrection like different kinds of animals? Why might Paul use an illustration like this to teach us about the resurrection?

---

3. Paul describes our earthly bodies as “glorious,” and he describes our heavenly bodies in the resurrection as “glorious” in vs. 40-41. In what way is your body right now “glorious”? Why might Paul want to make this argument to the Corinthians?

---

4. Review the words that Paul uses to describe our earthly and heavenly (resurrected) bodies (from vs. 42-44, Observation Questions #6 and #7). What does Paul mean by each of these words? What does this tell us about ourselves and about the gospel?

---

5. How does Paul compare and contrast Adam and Jesus in vs. 45-49? How are we related to each of these people? What does this tell us about the gospel?

---

### **Application of the Biblical Text**

1. This week memorize 1 Corinthians 15:49: “Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the man of heaven.”

2. Keep up with our annual Bible reading plan this week. If you have gotten behind, pick up where we are right now. You can always go back and read what you’ve missed as you have time.

3. If a non-Christian asked you, “How can anyone know what happens to a person when they die?” what would you tell them? How might 1 Corinthians 15 play a part in your answer?

4. If a Christian in your life group is struggling with questions like, “Are disabled people going to be disabled in heaven?” and “What about people who have their bodies totally destroyed before the resurrection?” what would you tell them. How might 1 Corinthians 15 play a part in your answer?

5. In this chapter we talked about the notion that our earthly bodies, even though we are weak and perishing, are still glorious to God. How might you apply this teachings to the big issues of our day, especially issues related to sex, gender, and euthanasia?