

STUDY GUIDE

Resurrection *Hope*

RESURRECTION HOPE:

How 1 Corinthians 15 Calls us to Rejoice in
Christ's Victory Over Death

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| April 5 | 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 |
| April 12 | 1 Corinthians 15:12-19 |
| April 19 | 1 Corinthians 15:20-34 |
| April 26 | 1 Corinthians 15:35-49 |
| May 3 | 1 Corinthians 15:50-58 |

INTRODUCTION

When you stand on a mountaintop, you gain a remarkable perspective. You are now able to see things that were not obvious before. You now understand more fully how all of the trees and plants and buildings blend together into one large landscape. The path you walked to get there now has greater meaning and value. Now you see a bigger picture to everything.

These moments atop a mountain are rare, but the perspective they give can last.

The Lord gives us one such mountaintop moment in 1 Corinthians 15. This is one of the most amazing chapters in all of Scripture – one of the highest “peaks”, so to speak. It gives us a bigger perspective that is meant to last, even as we traverse the hills, plains, and valleys of ordinary life.

In this chapter, Paul begins by recounting the truths of the gospel: that Christ died, was buried, and was raised on the third day. We know this. We celebrate it at Easter. And we would never deny it throughout the year. Yet do you really understand the implications of Christ’s resurrection for your life now, as well as for your life to come? Do you see all of life within the perspective of this?

This is Paul’s aim in this glorious chapter. He keeps taking us higher and higher up the mountain: since Christ is alive, we have hope. Since Christ is alive, death does not have the last word. Since Christ is alive, we have hope for our own resurrection. Since Christ is alive, even death has lost its sting.

And, having seen the perspective from atop the mountain, Paul then reminds us: since Christ is alive, our lives now have greater meaning and purpose. Our lives are not in vain.

Over the course of the next five weeks, we will be considering the implications of the resurrection of Jesus. We will begin on Easter Sunday, but we will keep going. We will stand atop this mountain, looking at life with a greater perspective and understanding: to help us see more clearly the excellence of Christ, to help us see more clearly the hope of resurrection, to help us see more clearly how to live today.

As Paul reminds us, “But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep” (15:20).

And this mountaintop view really does change everything.

HOW TO USE THIS STUDY GUIDE

Our prayer is that the Lord will use this study in the life of our church to stir our hearts to rejoice in Christ today, anchored in looking back and looking forward.

In the pages that follow, you will find a series of questions accompanying each week of our sermon series. There will be questions for you to answer based on your own personal study of the text, and further questions to reflect on and discuss in groups.

In order for you to get the most out of this series, we encourage you to read the text and write down your observations before listening to the sermon each Sunday.

Devote time in the week leading up to Sunday morning to explore the text for yourself.

You will notice that each week asks the same basic questions:

- What is one thing this passage teaches you about God?
- What is one thing this passage teaches you about the gospel?
- What is one thing this passage teaches you about yourself?
- What is one thing this passage teaches you about how God commands you to live?
- What is one question you have about this passage?

These questions form a good introductory tactic to studying the Bible. We often rush to application (what it means for my life) without considering what the text really says, and we often read the Bible as if it is primarily about us when it is really about God. So we want you to begin each week by learning about God and the gospel, then by considering what the text says about us, before then moving to what the text calls us to. Remember: application is not simply what we do; application of the Bible is holistic: it is about what we do, say, think, believe, and love.

There will also be opportunities for you to write, and ask, questions that arise during your study. We encourage you to write down these questions, and then share them.

Finally, there are a handful of questions designed to be reflected on and discussed with others. Perhaps your Grace Group will consider discussing them, or maybe you can talk about them with your family, or pull together a small group

of trusted friends to walk through this series together with. However it happens, we must remember that Bible study is meant to be done in community.

After each section, you will then find blank pages for additional notes, particularly for note-taking during the sermons. This would allow all of your notes throughout this series, both in personal study and in sermon content, to be together in the same place. If this would be useful, it is there for your benefit.

We pray that this study guide, going along with our weekly sermon series, helps you to grow deeper in understanding and applying the words we will read in Scripture, and that the words you read and the truths you learn will fuel a delight in Jesus Christ that gives you strength to live where the Lord has called you today.

Week 1: April 5, 2026
Resurrection Story

READ: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

What is one thing this passage teaches you about God?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about the gospel?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about yourself?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about how God commands you to live?

What is one question you have about this passage?

Questions for Further Reflection and Discussion:

- There are many who preach the gospel (v.11) – who did you hear it from?
- Why do we need to be reminded of the gospel (v.1)? What helps you to remember these truths?
- Why does it matter that this gospel is based on historical events?
- When you share the gospel, how would you summarize it in only a few sentences? Then compare that to this passage.
- Paul remembered his past, but it did not define him – the gospel did. How has the gospel brought real change in your life?
- What is the relationship between grace and effort (v.10)?

Sermon Notes:

Text:

Title:

Preacher:

Week 2: April 12, 2026
Resurrection Hope

READ: 1 Corinthians 15:12-19

What is one thing this passage teaches you about God?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about the gospel?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about yourself?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about how God commands you to live?

What is one question you have about this passage?

Questions for Further Reflection and Discussion:

- What would be different about your life tomorrow if you learned today that Jesus really isn't alive?
- Write down all of the "if / then" statements in this passage. What does this show you about the importance of the resurrection?
- Paul links the resurrection of Jesus with our forgiveness (v.17). We tend to speak only of the cross as bringing us forgiveness; why is the empty tomb essential as well?
- Why is it important that our hope is not only for this life? (v.18)
- How should believing in the resurrection of Jesus change your priorities this week?

Sermon Notes:

Text:

Title:

Preacher:

Week 3: April 19, 2026
Resurrection Life

READ: 1 Corinthians 15:20-34

What is one thing this passage teaches you about God?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about the gospel?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about yourself?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about how God commands you to live?

What is one question you have about this passage?

Questions for Further Reflection and Discussion:

- What is meant by the contrast between Jesus and Adam? Why is it such good news that our hope does not rest on Adam, or on ourselves, but on Christ?
- How does knowing that Christ will defeat all evil change the way you look at the world? Change the way you respond to injustice, suffering, evil, and/or death?
- Why does who we spend time around matter (v.33)? Who/what is influencing you the most today? Are these good influences or not?
- Based on this passage, how should the hope we have of eternal life cause you to live differently today?

Sermon Notes:

Text:

Title:

Preacher:

Week 4: April 26, 2026
Resurrection Bodies

READ: 1 Corinthians 15:35-49

What is one thing this passage teaches you about God?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about the gospel?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about yourself?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about God commands you to live?

What is one question you have about this passage?

Questions for Further Reflection and Discussion:

- If someone asked you what you believe about life after death, what would you say? Would your response include anything about your body?
- Why is the seed imagery significant? What does it teach you about the relationship between your current body and your resurrection body?
- Which of the transformations listed in verses 42-44 mean the most to you right now? What most encourages you?
- How does the promise of a future glorified body affect the way you think about things like aging, illness, weakness, etc.?
- How does knowing you will have a body forever change the way you should think about your body today?

Sermon Notes:

Text:

Title:

Preacher:

Week 5: May 3, 2026
Resurrection Victory

READ: 1 Corinthians 15:50-58

What is one thing this passage teaches you about God?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about the gospel?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about yourself?

What is one thing this passage teaches you about God commands you to live?

What is one question you have about this passage?

Questions for Further Reflection and Discussion:

- The Bible says that we are held captive by fear of death (Hebrews 2:15). How does the gospel answer this fear?
- Even though we still die, the sting of death is removed because of Christ's resurrection. (v.55). What does this mean? How should this passage affect the way you face grief, loss, and your own mortality?
- Why is resurrection certainty connected with Christian perseverance (v.58)? How should knowing that Jesus is coming back change the way you live?
- Why does the resurrection mean that our labor is not in vain (v.58)?

Sermon Notes:

Text:

Title:

Preacher:

Notes:



grace church

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