



JESUS PEOPLE

Look Up

- 1 Corinthians 15 looks at the resurrection of Jesus through several lenses. One good way to think about the chapter is to look at it through the lenses of past, present and future. Paul wants to make it absolutely clear that Jesus rising from the dead was an actual physical thing that happened. It's not a legend or something that just a handful of people cooked up as a pretty good story to tell. No, these things took place publicly and were witnessed by many. Paul focuses on resurrection past. But he goes on to tell us how it makes a difference in our present and is the hope we rely upon for our future.
- Read 1 Corinthians 15:1-8, 17-22 & 50-58 together several times as a group.

What especially caught your attention as you read from this chapter? What did you like? What is challenging or difficult to understand?

- Why does Paul describe the resurrection as the most important thing in verse 3?
- In what sense is our faith worthless without the resurrection?
- The "firstfruits" would be the earliest fruits or vegetables to appear at harvest time. They would be a promise of the full harvest that is to come. Why does Paul use this word to refer to Jesus' resurrection in verse 20?

- How have you experienced the "sting" of death?
- How does Jesus' resurrection show us that our labor is not in vain (verse 58)? What difference does that make in your life right now?

Read the passage again. What does it say about God? What does it say about us?

- What does it say that God planned all of this to give us victory through Jesus? (verse 57)
- What are some ways that we are prone to forget the importance of the resurrection? How can we "remember to remember" that Jesus rose from the dead...and that there is a resurrection for us as well?

Look Ahead

- Take a few minutes to reflect quietly on what you have discussed.
- What is one thing that God is asking you to change in light of this passage?
- What is the name of the person you will share this passage with this week?
- Take a few minutes to pray for one another.