



Leader Notes

Resurrected to New Life

March 21, 2010

1 Corinthians 15:35-58

Devotional Seed:

What is the antidote to a sense of futility?

Deeper Roots:

1. Why does Paul say in 1 Corinthians 15:19, that if only for this life we have hope, we are to be pitied more than all men? If life ends with death then Christ has nothing significant to offer us. In fact we would be living a delusion. Paul who suffered so much for his faith would have been greatly pitied if his work made no lasting difference.
2. When you hear the term spiritual body, (15:44) what do you think about? What is meant by it in this passage? How is the spiritual body described? Some think that this is a ghostly body, but rather we should see this as something substantial. It is a body. The differences are described in verse 42-43 and 53.
3. According to 1 Cor 15:20-23, why can we be certain of our future resurrection? We are certain because Christ was raised and if you go back to the beginning of the chapter you see that this was certain because of many witnesses.
4. Why is it important for us to have bodies in heaven? Bodies allow for interpersonal communication and individuality. Without bodies how could we recognize others or communicate with them?
5. In 1 Cor 15:49 we are told that we will bear the likeness of the man from heaven. How do Jesus' resurrection appearances give us clues as to what our spiritual bodies will be like? In John 20 and Luke 24 we see that Jesus has power to appear in a locked room, but he is not a ghost and is even able to be recognized and eat fish. This shows us a clear difference in power, but a clear continuity with the natural body.

Bearing Fruit:

1. Do you think about heaven? Does 1 Corinthians 15 change your view of heaven?
2. How does the hope of heaven empower you today?

Branching Out:

Easter is around the corner. Plan now to invite someone to the Easter Sunday service. If we do not plan ahead, these invitations do not happen.