

Life Group Notes 22nd November 2020

The heart of the gospel – the death and resurrection of Jesus

What did God speak to you about on Sunday? What can you remember from Si and Emmy's message?

Jesus spent 30 years on earth preparing for 3 years of ministry that would culminate in 3 days that changed the world forever. Jesus death and resurrection are the key decisive acts in history that secure salvation for God's people for all eternity. (As we are dealing with the heart of the gospel you may want to get people to read the different bible verses bracket below)

The death of Jesus on the cross was not a tragic accident but part of God's deliberate plan of salvation [Acts2v23-24, 1Cor15v3-4]. Christ willingly went to the cross on our behalf as our substitute [John10v14-18]. The only perfect human, chose to die and take on himself our sin; giving all who put their faith in him, his righteousness [2Cor5v21, 1 John3v5]. On the cross he experienced God's wrath against sin, whilst through his death on the cross we receive his love and peace with God [1John2v1-2,4v10, Col1v19-20].

Read Romans 3v23-26 and discuss what does this teach us we have received because of the death and resurrection of Jesus? (None of us good enough, God's gift to us through faith, redeemed from slavery to sin and Satan, Jesus blood turned aside God's wrath against us [propitiation]. Made righteous in Christ and justified – legally declared in the right in the court of heaven. Wow)

Read Hebrews 9v24-28 and discuss what does this teach is about the death of Christ? (Once for all sacrifice, never needing to be repeated, sufficient to deal with all the sins of all who eagerly wait for him).

The resurrection shows Jesus sacrifice was acceptable to God, and that he has risen with power over the death and Satan to give eternal life to all who come to him. Whilst our current bodies will die (unless Christ returns in your life time), your spirit as a believer will go to be with God in paradise [Luke 23v43, Phil1v23, Luke16v19-31], until Christ returns to resurrect the dead [John5v28-29, Phil3v20-21] and renew all creation [Rom8v18-23]. Christ's resurrection power is now at work in everyone who believes giving us the power to live for God [Eph1v18-21]

Read 1 Cor 15v20-23,42-57 and discuss what this teaches us about the resurrection of our bodies? (Just as certain as we shall die because we are all from Adam, in Christ we shall rise from the dead. The resurrection physical body will be immortal, spiritual – different somehow to our current one – in the likeness of Christ's resurrected body. It is guaranteed because of Christ's victory on the cross)

Finish by praying God gives you a opportunity to share the gospel with someone this week for it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes [Rom1v16].

Recommended book to read alongside the bible: **The Incomparable Christ by J. Oswald Sanders.**