

COVID-19 PARENTS AND STUDENTS BIBLE STUDY GUIDE

STUDENTS

BIBLE
STUDIES
FOR LIFE.

Session 1

RESURRECTION

The Truth of the Resurrection // 1 Corinthians 15:1-8

ALIVE
KENNER
FIRST BAPTIST
A LIFE
WORTH
LIVING

ONE SHEET

THE POINT: The resurrection of Christ is a historical fact.

THE BIBLE MEETS LIFE

Churches around the world celebrate Jesus' resurrection. But do we embrace the resurrection as an actual historical event, or do we simply see it as a fairytale. Sadly, many people view it as fiction and not fact. They see the resurrection as an "inspiring story" about a great teacher named Jesus, but they do not believe He is the true Messiah who was resurrected for all mankind. The apostle Paul had something to say about that! In 1 Corinthians 15, Paul made an objective, truthful claim—Jesus did physically rise from the dead, and there were many witnesses. Since Christ actually rose from the dead, His resurrection has important implications for all the world.

► **When have you been an eyewitness to an exciting event?**

1 CORINTHIANS 15:1-3

Critics often claim that Jesus never died. However, too much evidence testifies to the historical nature of Jesus' suffering. The Gospel accounts, as well as other New Testament authors, bear witness to the truth of Jesus' death. Yet some might claim that it's just in the Bible (as if the biblical evidence is no good). This is where other sources come into play. Beyond the Gospel writers, many people recorded accounts of Jesus' death and other facts about His life. None of these people had reason to support Jesus or His followers. We might be tempted to think the supporting testimony isn't that powerful, but having this much evidence concerning a historical person who lived 2000 years ago is incredible. Because of the compelling testimony to Jesus' death, we can be absolutely certain that the crucifixion is a historical fact.

► **What makes the death of Jesus so significant?**

► **Why is it so important that we know Jesus' crucifixion is historically true?**

1 CORINTHIANS 15:4

Paul continued to lay out the basics of the gospel in verse 4—not only did Christ die for our sins, but furthermore, He was buried and raised. Jesus was laid in a tomb, because He was a real human with a physical body, just like other people. He was both fully God and fully human, which afforded Him the power to lay down His own life and the authority to take it up again (John 10:18). Jesus' burial—the fact that He was laid in a physical tomb—reminds us He was a physical human being. Jesus' death and burial also reminds us that sin has consequences. His death stands in stark contrast to our culture's current trend of redefining good and evil to be whatever each individual holds to be true. Through Jesus' death, however, we see that good and evil aren't a matter of opinion, and there are real consequences for our choices.

► **What are the implications of Jesus' being fully man and fully God?**

► **Why do some people find it difficult to believe Jesus' resurrection?**

1 CORINTHIANS 15:5-8

To strengthen his case, Paul described how Jesus appeared to many people after His resurrection. This argument makes no sense if Jesus' body was still in the tomb, yet scholars generally agree that all evidence from the first century points to an empty tomb. In fact, ancient sources offer no other account of what happened to Jesus after His crucifixion. All we have are the accounts of those who saw Him. The disciples had nothing to gain from making up a story of resurrection. Actually, quite the opposite happened—all the apostles, except John, were killed because of their preaching the resurrection. Immediately after the cross, the disciples had been terrified, because they'd been associated with Jesus. However, after Jesus was raised, they began boldly proclaiming the good news of the resurrection. Their eyewitness testimonies, their lives, and their deaths stand as powerful evidence for the resurrection of Jesus.

► **What's the importance of eyewitness testimony?**

► **How has Jesus revealed Himself to you?**