

# “The Resurrection”

1 Corinthians 15:1-10a, 12-20  
Ray Cortese, April 19/20, 2014

## Reflect on the Text

\*Note: Why do we do this first? We always want to start with the Bible itself. The goal is to meditate on the Word and read it with an ear sensitive to the Holy Spirit’s promptings. Look for words or phrases that stand out through logic, repetition, layout, etc.

- Read 1 Corinthians 15:1-10a, 12-20. What stood out to you? What did you find interesting and/or important? What was challenging or caused you to have questions?

## Reflect on the Sermon

### INTRODUCTION

- 1 Complete one of the following sentences:

“I can still remember the day that \_\_\_\_\_”

“My life was never the same after \_\_\_\_\_”

- 2 Summarize the *Big Idea* of the sermon in **one phrase or sentence** (Note: this is not the same as listing the main points). In other words, if someone woke you up at 3am on Monday morning and asked, “What was the sermon about on Sunday?” what would you say in the midst of your sleepy haze?

### THE RESURRECTION: SOLID GROUND

- 3 What is the difference between saying the resurrection is a belief or a philosophy versus an historical fact? What evidence is there that the resurrection really happened?
- 4 How would you respond to someone who says, “I don’t believe in Christianity because it offends me” or “I don’t believe in Christianity because I don’t like it”? Discuss the following quote.

I believe in Easter. I believe in the traditions. I believe in the flowers. I believe in the beauty. I believe in the meals. I believe in family getting together. I believe

in the love that sort of pervades Easter, and the warmth that you feel from these traditions, and the meals, and the worship. When the Apostles Creed is said," she said, "I say it. When the Doxology is sung, tears roll down my face. I believe in Easter I just don't believe in Jesus."

#### THE RESURRECTION: UTTER CERTAINTY

- 5 How does the resurrection answer the following questions: Are your sins forgiven? Does God have anything against you? Does God like you? How might the resurrection be compared to a receipt?
- 6 How is the end of *Saving Private Ryan* **not** a picture of the gospel?

#### THE RESURRECTION: REDIRECTED LIFE

- 7 How was the apostle Paul an example of the power of God to change a life? The video featured people whose lives were changed because of Jesus: "I was...then I met Jesus...now..." What would have been your story if you had been in the video?
- 8 How was the story of the father who dove into a septic tank to save his son an illustration of Christianity?

#### THE RESURRECTION: GLORIOUS FUTURE

- 9 The resurrection means that you will get the life back you always wanted. Your best years are yet to come. What do you hope you will experience when you are resurrected?
- 10 Death takes us away from our loved ones, but resurrection promises reunion. Who do you look forward to being reunited with in heaven?

## Final Reflections

- How has your understanding, appreciation, and love for God and the gospel grown as a result of this study?
- In what areas of faith and practice are you feeling convicted by the Holy Spirit to act as a result of this study?