

Because He Lives

By Dr. Stephen G. Tan | 1 Corinthians 15

DISCUSS

We may be very familiar and have been reminded of the story of Jesus' resurrection so often that it has perhaps lost its significance. Or perhaps it has been a while since we have thought about the implications of Christ's resurrection in our lives. Read 1 Corinthians 15. From this passage we draw out five biblical principles as it relates to the Resurrection of Christ.

1. The essence of the Gospel message is Jesus' death for our sins and his resurrection to affirm this truth (v. 1-4).

- Why did Jesus willingly die for our sins on the cross?
- How did His resurrection confirm that His death on our behalf indeed saved us from our sins and the penalty of eternal death?
- Does the message of the Gospel promise material wealth, physical healing from illnesses or problem-free life?
- What does abundant and eternal life in Christ mean?

2. Be confident the eyewitness evidence of Christ's resurrection is very strong (v. 5-9).

- Who were the witnesses mentioned by the apostle Paul that Jesus Christ indeed rose from the dead? What made these people credible witnesses?
- What proof did Paul personally have that Jesus indeed is the Resurrected Savior?
- What has the resurrection accomplished in you?

3. Our Christian faith is worthless if the resurrection never happened (v. 12-19).

- What belief did some of the Corinthians have that troubled Paul? How did Paul refute this belief?
- How would you respond to someone who claims that Jesus' resurrection from the dead did not really happen?
- How does Christianity, whose faith is embedded on the resurrected Christ, impact the world?
- How does your personal faith in Christ, which is something worthy to believe in, affect the people around you?

4. Christ's resurrection assures us that those in Christ will certainly be resurrected (v. 20-22).

- What does Christ's bodily resurrection guarantee for the Christians?
- Looking at how Christ conducted His life after His resurrection, what can we look forward with anticipation when we rose from the dead?
- Why is resurrection the great antidote for fear of death?
- What promise did Jesus give in John 11:25-26?

5. A faithful life in Christ is worth living because death was conquered when Christ resurrected (v. 53-57).

- What did the apostle Paul say would happen when the rapture of the church occurs, which should remind us that Easter is a reminder that ultimate victory is ours in Christ Jesus?
- In light of this truth, how should we live in this world according to verse 58? How are you living a faithful life in Christ?

REFLECT

How does the resurrection of Jesus Christ affect your way of living? Does it in any way transform your life? What is the impact or change in your life knowing that you serve a risen Savior?

PRAY

Heavenly Father, I cannot thank You enough that because of Your love for me, a sinner, You have sent your begotten Son to die and save me from my sin. And He didn't remain dead, because after three days, He rose from the dead! What a wonderful truth that because He died and rose, Satan and sin were defeated. And death is likewise defeated when You raise Christians to life! Thank You that my life is worth living because my Lord lives. Help me to live faithfully in Him. In Jesus' precious name I pray. Amen.