

“Resurrection: Back to Life”

Sunday, February 2, 2024, 10:30 a.m.

Whitneyville Bible Church, Alto, MI

Pastor Jonathan DeCou

1 Corinthians 15:12-34

BIG IDEA: Authentic Christians recognize the implications of the resurrection.

“Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say, “There is no resurrection of the dead?””
1 Corinthians 15:12 (CSB)



Is the resurrection real? (v 12-19)

- Without the resurrection, Christ is dead and gone. (v 13, 16)
- Without the resurrection, preaching is a waste of time. (v 14a)
- Without the resurrection, Christian faith is empty. (v 14b)
- Without the resurrection, the apostles are liars. (v 15)
- Without the resurrection, we possess a powerless faith and remain in sin. (v 16-17)
- Without the resurrection, the dead are gone forever. (v 18)
- Without the resurrection, we are miserable fools. (v 19)



When is the resurrection? (v 20-28)

- Clue #1: Firstfruits. (v 20, 23)

- Clue #2: Adam. (v 21-22)

- Clue #3: The Kingdom. (v 24-28)



Why is there resurrection? (v 29-34)

- The resurrection motivates us to evangelize. (v 29)
- The resurrection puts suffering into perspective. (v 30-32)
- The resurrection purges our conduct. (v 33-34)

BIG IDEA: Authentic Christians recognize the implications of the resurrection.

Read: Re-read 1 Corinthians 15:12-34

Think: Consider the implications of the resurrection, and then ask yourself the following questions: *When has it been fun to pretend? When is it dangerous to pretend? What false teaching is being spread among the Corinthians (v 12)? Locate the “if” statements in verses 12-19. From these statements, what problems emerge both for the Corinthians and Paul if there is no resurrection? What proofs does Paul offer that this is not the case? What is the central proof Paul continually points to as evidence for the hope of our resurrection? What does the idea of “firstfruits” (v 20, 23) reveal about the way Christ’s resurrection relates to ours? What insights do you gain about our future in Christ? About Jesus? About eternal life?*

Do: Identify when you connected the resurrection of Christ with your own victory over death. What difference, if any, has that made to you in terms of hope and courage? What new sense of purpose does this give you? When have you felt that it was futile? How do you go on when those feelings come? What talking points have you found helpful in showing unbelieving friends that Christ did rise from the dead?