

Personal/Small Group Study

Week of January 14, 2024 A.D.

No Death - No Resurrection. No Resurrection - No Power.

(Note: For every question which appears in this study, always give the reasoning and/or the explanation for each of your answers.)

Read 1 Corinthians 1:1-3

1. What does Paul mean when he states that he was called? How did Paul know that he was called? What is an apostle? What was Paul called to do?
2. What is the meaning of the term "by the will of God"? Does every person have a personal and/or free will? Does God want every person (a) to know the will of God? and/or (b) to act in accordance with the will of God? Can a person resist God's will? Why would a person resist God's will? How can a person know God's will?

Read 1 Corinthians 1:2

3. What is a church? How does a person qualify to be within the group of people known as "the church"? Why would a person want to be within the group which comprises the church? Does every member of the church have: (a) rights and privileges? and/or (b) obligations, duties, and responsibilities?
4. What is the meaning of the word sanctified? How is Christ Jesus involved in a person's sanctification? Is every member of the church sanctified? If so, how and for what purpose?
5. What is the meaning of holy? What is the difference, if any, between being sanctified and being holy? Who calls a person to be holy? How does a person discern, respond to, and/or act in accordance with their call to be holy?
6. What does it mean for a person to call on the name of Jesus Christ? What does it mean for a person to call Jesus Christ "our Lord" or "my Lord"? What are the duties and responsibilities of any person who calls Jesus Christ their "Lord"?

Read 1 Corinthians 1:3

7. What does it mean to have and/or to receive "grace"? Are the "grace of God our Father" and "the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ" the same?
8. What does it mean to have and/or to receive "peace"? Are the "peace from (and of) God our Father" and the "peace from (and of) the Lord Jesus Christ" the same?

Read Philippians 3:10-11

9. Was Paul in a personal relationship with Christ? Did Paul have a personal encounter with the resurrected person of Christ? Did Paul dedicate his life to serving Christ? Why would Paul state "I want to know Christ"? How does this statement by Paul make any sense?
10. What is "the power of the resurrection" of Christ? Is "the power of Christ's resurrection" offered and available to every believer in Christ? Is it the duty and responsibility (and is it essential to the life and sanctification) of every believer in Christ to know and to desire the power of Christ's resurrection?
11. How (and why) did Paul know and experience "the fellowship of sharing in the sufferings" of Jesus? Do you (and/or does the typical American "Christian") willingly (and without hesitation) desire to share in the sufferings of Christ? How do the commands and teachings of the New Testament give to each of us the daily opportunity to "know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings"?
12. Can a person be certain that he or she will "attain to the resurrection of the dead" if that person shows no evidence of "becoming like Christ in his death"?

Consider: Jesus said, "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven." You think about that. Amen.