Personal/Small Group Study

Week of March 31, 2024 A.D.

The Lord Is Risen!

"For God so loved the world he gave his one and only Son that whoever believes in him should not perish but have everlasting life." Each and every spring on a special day which is known as Resurrection Sunday, the followers of Christ - that is, those persons who have received Christ as their Savior and Lord - gather together to announce to the world the reality that Jesus has conquered sin and death. Through the atoning sacrificial death of Christ, God has made it possible for every person everywhere to experience a life of freedom, joy, and faithfulness to Christ.

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

Read John 20:24-31

1. Why did Jesus appear to his disciples after the resurrection? Can a person be born again without believing in the bodily resurrection of Jesus? According to verse 31, what is required for a person to have life in Jesus' name?

Read 1 Corinthians 15:1-8

2. What is the gospel by which a person is saved? What is meant by the words "Christ died for our sins"? Why do you think that Paul mentions the five hundred witnesses "most of whom are still living"?

Read 1 Corinthians 15:50-58

- 3. Why is it impossible for flesh and blood to inherit the kingdom of God? What does Paul mean when he announces that death no longer has any victory or sting?
- 4. Is it sinful for a follower of Christ to be afraid of death?
- 5. Does Christ's victory over death obligate every follower of Christ to give himself/herself fully to the work of the Lord? Why does Paul state that "your labor in the Lord is not in vain"?

Read John 14:1-6

6. How does the bodily resurrection of Jesus validate the teaching of these verses? What does Jesus mean when he says that he is "preparing a place for you"?

Read John 16:33

- 7. How has Jesus overcome the world? Does Jesus promise that every person who follows Him will (a) have a trouble-free life? and/or (b) have power to overcome the world?
- 8. Does faith in Christ give to every believer in Christ the ability to know and to experience personal peace in every circumstance of life?

Read Matthew 11:28-30

- 9. Do these verses have any meaning for a person who is not fully convinced that Jesus has been raised from the dead?
- 10. Is the yoke of Jesus always "easy and his burden light"?
- 11. What do these verses promise to every person who follows Christ? Is there ever a situation when these verses are not true?
- 12. If you were asked to explain the significance of Resurrection Sunday to a non-believing family member or to a friend, what would you say?

Consider: Christ Jesus has conquered both sin and death for the benefit of every man, woman, and child on planet Earth. The bodily resurrection of Jesus confirms that He is the Son of the Living God. And now, through the indwelling power of the Holy Spirit, God has given to every believer the ability to live a life of freedom, joy, and faithfulness to Christ. "You think about that." Amen.