PART 1: READING THE STORY BACKWARDS

Introduction – The Power Of Plot Twists

The Resurrection – Did It Really Happen?

- Exhibit A – The Missing ___________
- Exhibit B – The Personal ___________
- Exhibit C – The Messiah ___________

Resurrection – What Does It Mean?

1. Vindication by ______ – Whatever Jesus claimed is true!
   Hosea 6:1-2; John 2:18-21

2. Hope for our ______ – Our turn will come!
   Psalm 16:9-10; 1 Corinthians 15

3. The End of _________ – True freedom is ours!
   Ezekiel 37:1-14; Colossians 1:13; 2:15

Conclusion – Deciding Your Next Step

1. Join the _____________.
2. Talk to a _________________.
3. _________ for power.
4. ___________ a friend. (to join you in this journey)
5. Expect to be _____________.

John 20:24-28

HOME CHURCH QUESTIONS

WARMING UP…

1. After reviewing this week’s teaching, share one new thing you learned or one thing that most perplexed, challenged, or encouraged you.

LOOK TO THE BOOK…

2. Let's study closely one of the earliest written accounts of the resurrection of Jesus and the theological implications Paul draws from it for our own lives. Read 1 Corinthians 15 through closely and, if possible, from more than one translation.
   a. What verse has the most impact on you? Why?
   b. According to Paul, what is the most important thing in life that people need to understand and embrace (see v. 3)?
   c. What about v. 6, written just a couple of decades after Jesus’ death, makes Paul’s claims particularly open to historical scrutiny?
   d. How does Jesus’ messianic mission of defeating evil and liberating creation is seen by Paul in this chapter as a two-stage process (i.e., part one now; part two later).
   e. How does what we know about Jesus’ resurrection body from the Gospels demonstrate what Paul describes here of the resurrection bodies we should expect one day for ourselves? Compare and discuss.

SO WHAT?...

3. According to Paul in 1 Corinthians 15, what effect should the resurrection of Jesus in the past and the promise of our own resurrection in the future have on how we live in the present? (See vv. 31-34 & 58.)

4. As we’ve seen, Paul calls us to definite lifestyle changes in light of our future resurrection and judgment, and in light of Christ’s victory over death and sin. Of that list (discussed in #3), what do you need to grow in the most? Pray for each other.

LOOKING AHEAD…

5. Since we don’t need to kill someone in order to offer forgiveness, why did God require Jesus to die for the sins of the world in order to offer forgiveness to us?

Bruxy Cavey @ The Meeting House – Sunday, March 31, 2002