

Twelve Challenges Churches Face

A study guide for the book by Mark Dever

Chapter 11 - Death

BEFORE READING

Read:

- Read 1 Corinthians 15.

Answer:

- What was your first experience with death?
 - Are you afraid to die?
- If the resurrection is not real, is it worth being a Christian?
- In five or fewer sentences, summarize the gospel.

DURING READING

THE RESURRECTION AND THE GOSPEL – pages 158-160

- What historical facts comprise the gospel?
 - Explain the significance of each.
 - Which, if any, can be omitted from the proclamation of the Gospel?
- Do you know the Gospel? Can you share it with others?

THE RESURRECTION AND THE CHRISTIAN LIFE – pages 160-165

- Explain the consequences for each of the bullet points below if Christ is not raised from the dead:
 - Paul's preaching.
 - The faith of the Corinthians.
 - The Apostles.
 - The Corinthians' hopes for the forgiveness of sins.
 - Paul's entire life.
 - Christians.
 - You.

- Summarize “Pascal’s Wager.”

- Does Paul sympathize with Pascal’s theory?

- Should we use Pascal’s Wager in apologetics and evangelism?

- What does it mean that Christ’s resurrection is the “firstfruits?”

- How should Christ’s resurrection affect your view of life and the future?

THE RESURRECTION IS REAL – pages 165-168

- What attitude did the culture in Paul’s day have toward the idea of a bodily resurrection?

- How did Paul answer those attitudes?

- What attitude does our culture have toward a bodily resurrection?

- How might you answer that attitude?

- Why is it important to know and believe that the resurrection is real?

CONCLUSION: STAND FIRM – pages 168-169

- How does standing firm in the doctrine of the resurrection effect how we live?

- ...how we minister?

AFTER READING

Answer:

- How has this chapter challenged or encouraged you?

Apply:

- What applications will you make from this chapter?

Pray:

- Write out a prayer in response to what you’ve learned.