



Greater Than: Death

MAY 23 & 24, 2015

Over Memorial Day Weekend we remember and give thanks for those soldiers who have sacrificed their lives for the freedoms we enjoy in our country. Their death was in preserving and protecting our way of life. Their sacrifice reminds us of the great love Jesus has shown us while making a way back to God through his death, and by his death, defeating the grave. Jesus is greater than death.

WITH THE GROUP



LEARNING | BEGINNING TO CONNECT WITH THE TOPIC

How do you want to be remembered and celebrated at your own funeral?



LEARNING | GETTING CLEAR ON WHAT WAS TAUGHT

What is the Sign of Jonah referred to in Luke 11:29ff? What does the sign mean to a post-resurrection audience (us) and what did it mean to Jesus' immediate audience?

What do you understand of Christian death and resurrection? What happens to you -- body, soul, spirit? Does the Bible support the ideas you have? How do you know what you know?



LOVING | GROWING OUR HEART FOR A LOVING GOD

What parts of the sermon most made you think, wonder, feel inspired or feel challenged?

Read 1 Corinthians 15. What is the importance of the resurrection to Christian faith? What is the comfort of the resurrection for those with faith in Christ?



LIVING | STARTING TO LIVE LIKE JESUS DAILY

What would it mean for you to die well?

Are you spiritually ready to die? Why or why not? Are you practically ready to die - i.e. do you have a will, matters attended to, etc.?

DIGGING DEEPER

Do you fear your own death? British philosopher Simon Critchley writes, "A detailed national survey by the "Opinion Dynamics Corporation" from 2003 claimed that, fully 92% of Americans believe in God, 85% believe in heaven and 82% believe in miracles. But the deeper truth is that such religious belief, complete with a heavenly afterlife, brings believers little solace in relation to death. The only priesthood in which people really believe is the medical profession and the purpose of their sacramental drugs and technology is to support longevity, the sole unquestioned good of contemporary Western life." He goes on to express surprise that the belief in heaven doesn't alleviate fears of death. Do you share his surprise? Do you fear death?