

THE PASSION

B R I N G S H O P E

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Read Romans 1:16 and Romans 15:1-8. When they hear the word “gospel” most people think of the first four books of the New Testament because they are called the gospels. But what is the “gospel message?”

Answer – The gospel message is that Jesus died for all of our sins, was buried and then rose from the dead three days later and promises eternal life to everyone who puts their trust in him as their only hope of getting to heaven.

2. Why was it significant that at the writing of the book of 1 Corinthians, many of the people who had seen Jesus after his resurrection were still alive?

Answer – It was significant because those people could authenticate as eyewitnesses what Paul was saying about the resurrection.

3. Read 1 Corinthians 15:12 – 19. In verses 12-14, Paul says that if Jesus had not risen from the dead then his preaching was useless and our faith is useless. Why do you think this is true?

Answer – If Jesus did not rise from the dead then he was just another man who died and can offer us no hope.

4. In verse 17 Paul says that if Christ was not risen from the grave then we are still in our sins. What do you think that means and why would it be true?

Answer – If Christ did not rise from the dead then our sins have not been paid for. If he only died and did not rise, then he must have died as any person does for their own sin. He could not raise us up from the dead if he was not able to raise himself from the dead. The resurrection proves he paid for our sin.

5. Why is it essential to us that Christ did rise from the dead?

Answer – The resurrection proves that Jesus was who he said he was, God in the flesh. It also proves that everything that he has promised to us, he is able to fulfill.

6. Why was it such a risky thing for Nicodemus and Joseph to take the body of Jesus and bury him?

Answer – Both of these men were part of the group who condemned Jesus to death, they could have been removed from their positions and possibly persecuted.

