

If you have not yet logged on to Right Now Media you may do so at this link:

<https://www.rightnow.org/Account/Invite/jacobswell>

Watch this video for an introduction to 1 Corinthians:

<https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Training/Post/View/188645>

If you missed the first Messed Up message go to jacobswellec.org and follow the message resources tab and watch week one.

Read all of 1 Corinthians 15 and 16.

Study Questions

1. When a follower of Christ dies and is buried, the body moves from the dust of the earth to a resurrected body. Our bodies are like seeds, planted into the ground to sprout forth for eternity. As followers of Christ, this life is not the end, nor are we alone in the grief we experience in the here and now. **Read Isaiah 25:7-9.** How does this bring you hope and courage today? Go to the following link for a song (written by our own Grant Schultz) all about the present and future hope we have in Jesus: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HYoFL39RGLc>
2. It is hard to imagine what our resurrected bodies will be for eternity, but we do see glimpses in the Scriptures. **Read Exodus 34:28-35 and Matthew 17:1-3.** Sit quietly and pray. Ask God to give you a picture of your body—unsusceptible to sickness, pain, injury and struggle. Ask Him to give you a hint of what it will be like to live with a resurrected body with Him for eternity. Ask Him to remind you that this same
3. The best example we have of what a resurrection body will be like is to read about Jesus after His resurrection. **Read Luke 24:36-43.** What do you learn in these verses? How does it fit with what you have thought? How are you surprised?
4. The Apostle Paul gives four distinctions between our present body and our future resurrection body in **1 Corinthians 15:42-46.** Our earthly body is perishable. Our future resurrection body will be imperishable. It can be easy to dishonor God as we live on earth, but someday we will live radiant with His glory. On earth we live in our weakness crying out to the Holy Spirit to work in us, but someday we will live consistent in God's power for eternity. Presently we have a natural being, but someday we will have a spiritual one. What excites you most about the changes that will occur for us in the future?
5. **Read 1 Corinthians 15:53-57.** Write a prayer of thanksgiving that in Christ, death no longer has victory over us. As followers of Christ, death is only the beginning of our new life in Him.

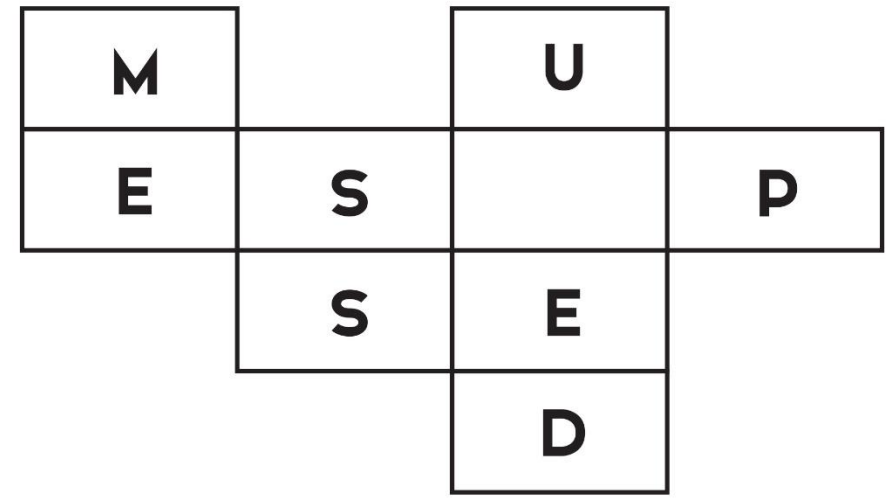
6. **1 Corinthians 15:58** “Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.” Are there places in your life and service to the Lord where you need to be reminded that there is hope, even in the middle of the mess? That your labor is not in vain? List them here:

In every way, even in the consistent grief that is part of our lives now, we have the resurrection promise of hope and possibility in Christ. Let God refresh your soul with the truth that in the Lord your labor is not in vain and that in his time, all things are made new. For another song (also by Grant Schultz) about real-time hope for healing and restoration, go to this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vzSiUVxKz5Q>.

7. As we end this series, pull out all of your previous devotions from 1 Corinthians. What have you learned? How has God been revealing Himself to you over the last 9 weeks? What are your next steps to know and become like Jesus through the series? Thank God for His transformative work. Ask for His grace and guidance as you take your next steps in Him.
8. Continue to pray the prayer of Saint Francis throughout our study of 1 Corinthians.

Prayer of Saint Francis:

*Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace,
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
Where there is injury, pardon; Where there is doubt, faith;
Where there is despair, hope; Where there is darkness, light;
Where there is sadness, joy; Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved
as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; in pardoning that we are
pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.*



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