

LIFE GROUP SERMON SUMMARY QUESTIONS

"BUT GOD" SERIES

These questions are for the **November 19, 2017** sermon, "But God Gives it a Body." Please read the sermon passage (1 Corinthians 15:35-49) together out loud.

SERMON OUTLINE

WHEN PONDERING THE FUTURE RESURRECTION, EXPLORE . . .

1. God's teachings from the natural realm (35-41)
 - a. The resurrected body is a seed that must die to produce something new & living (36-38)
 - b. The resurrected body is a flesh which is unique to humans (39)
 - c. The resurrected body is "heavenly," and will be more glorious than the earthly body.
2. God's teachings from the physical realm (42-44)
 - a. The resurrected body is imperishable, and will never wear out or be corrupted.
 - b. The resurrected body is glorious, and provides a heavy dose of honor for the faithful.
 - c. The resurrected body is powerful, and will not be subject to illness or disease.
 - d. The resurrected body is spiritual, and not merely natural.
3. God's teachings from the historical realm (45-49)
 - a. The first Adam is the historic Adam, our human representative.
 - i. In him, we are merely natural, a "man of dust."
 - ii. In his image we are broken, people of sin.
 - b. The last Adam is the risen Christ, our perfect substitute.
 - i. In him, we are spiritual, and become people of heaven.
 - ii. In him, we become healed, people of righteousness.
 - c. There is both continuity and discontinuity with regard to our bodies:
 - i. Our heavenly body will be the same, but perfected.
 - ii. Our heavenly body will be the realization of our hopes: fully healed.

Life Group Discussion Questions

1. Based on #1, above: God sees death far differently than people. We think nothing of planting a seed, because we know that the fruit to come is far more valuable than the seed which must die. Do you see the death of our earthly bodies in this light? Why or why not?
2. Based on #1, above: We spoke of Joni Eareckson Tada and the 50 years she has lived in a broken body on earth. She said, "I really would rather be in this wheel chair knowing Jesus as I do, than on my feet without him." And Joni celebrates that, "glorious but awful, beautiful but sad, terrible but wonderful day," because she says, through it, "Look what God has done." How are you working toward this attitude about your physical pain and limitations?
3. Based on #2, above: Which aspect of your future heavenly body do you most anticipate? Remember you will be free from sin, corruption, illness, pain and weaknesses.
4. Based on #3, above: Read Romans 5:12-21. Those who are born once are still in Adam; they will die physically and then spiritually, forever. Those in Christ are born anew, and therefore, born twice. They will die physically, but then live forever with him. Discuss.