

**Part 4 – 1 Corinthians 15:51–58**  
**Hope and the Resurrected Body**  
**Leader's Guide**  
**(Video 21 minutes)**

**Warm up questions pre-video: (15 minutes)**

- ❖ What is the worldly definition of “hope”?
  - Trust, reliance.
  - Desire, accompanied by expectation of or belief in fulfillment.
  - Expectation of fulfillment or success.

**Read: Romans 8:18–25**  
**1 Peter 1:3**

- ❖ What is the Christian understanding of “hope” through the promise of Christ?
  - The Christian anticipation of the future based on God’s covenant faithfulness.
  - The resurrection of Jesus Christ as known by the works of the Holy Spirit.

**Read 1 Corinthians 15:51–58**

- ❖ On the last day what will be the difference between those who have died in Christ and those who are alive when Christ returns?
  - The dead will be raised and body and spirit will be joined.
  - Through Christ we will all be changed.

**Read: Matthew 25:31–46**  
**John 3:16–18**

- ❖ In Jesus’s parable Christ makes a marked difference between those gathered on his right (v. 34) and those gathered on his left (v. 41). What is the significance of this difference in light of the John reading?
  - To those gathered on his right Jesus says, “Come.”
  - Jesus tells them that they will inherit the kingdom that was prepared for mankind from the foundation of the world.
  - To those gathered on his left Jesus says, “Depart.”
  - Jesus tells them to go into the eternal fire that was not prepared for man but that had been prepared for the devil and his angels.
  - Through unbelief and the rejection of our Lord’s love, people choose to go to a place that was not prepared for them.

## **Post video follow up questions. (20 minutes)**

- ❖ Why does the resurrection make death itself a bad thing?
  - Death is not a friend if it needs to be overturned by Christ in the resurrection.
  - Death is not in the natural order of creation.
  - Death shows us that we are sinful and not right with God.
  - Death does not separate us from Christ or God's love, but because of sin our bodies are perishable.
  
- ❖ What does the sounding of the trumpet mean (v. 52)?
  - The coming of the King.
  - The start of the celebration.
  - The dead will be raised.
  - The last generation of Christians will still be living.
  - We will all, living and dead, be changed from imperishable. The same but different.
  - It will happen in the blink of an eye.
  
- ❖ "Death is swallowed up in victory" (v. 54). "O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?" (v. 55). When does this take place?
  - When God finishes his story.
  - When our Lord's promise to us that we trust in faith is fulfilled.
  - At the fulfillment of the Great Harvest.
  
- ❖ In the video the professors discussed why the word "but" (v. 57) is the most significant word in this reading? They also mentioned how "therefore" (v. 57) is different. Why is the meaning behind these words in 1 Corinthians important for us today?
  - Paul uses "but" as a pivot word.
    - But – Points us to the full glory of what God does for us.
    - Therefore – Where the gospel comes to us and how we respond to the calling of the gospel.

## **Read: Luther's Small Catechism questions 162 & 163**

### **Mathew 25:34**

- ❖ Do our lives as Christians matter to God?
  - As part of the body of Christ we are part of God's story.
  - Admonished by the law in our sinful lives, we live in repentant hope, living in the gospel of our Lord.