

Part 1 – 1 Corinthians 15:1–11
The Day that Changed Everything Hope Created
Leader's Guide
(Video 21 minutes)

Warm up questions pre-video: (20 minutes)

Read Genesis 1:1–31 and 2:5–7

- ❖ In Genesis, Scripture gives us a description of how God created man. How was God's creation of man different than how God created all other things?
 - God formed everything by his word alone.
 - God formed man with his own hands from the dust of the earth.
 - Only man received the breath of life that made man a living creature.
 - In verse 1:27 it is written, "So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them."

- ❖ Why is it important that our Lord is both 100% God and 100% man as explained in the 2nd Article of the Apostles' Creed in the Small Catechism?
 - God the Son was begotten of the Father before all worlds.
 - God the Son was with God the Father from eternity before he was made man.
 - As 100% man Christ was born under the Law and under the Law was able then to be tempted but chose to live sinless.
 - Luther's Small Catechism questions 118 to 124.

- ❖ Why is Jesus's resurrection important to Christian faith?
 - Jesus's resurrection shows that our Lord's teachings and promises are truth.
 - Jesus's resurrection declares to us that Christ's sacrifice was accepted by God the Father for the reconciliation of the world.
 - Jesus's resurrection as the first-fruits of the final resurrection assures all believers that they too will physically rise to eternal life.

- ❖ What does the final resurrection mean to Christians?
 - All of God's creation will be transformed and renewed.
 - The New Heaven and the New Earth for those who have lived in faith.
 - The eternal place prepared for the devil and his angels for those who have chosen unbelief.

Read 1 Corinthians 15:1–11

Post-video follow up questions: (20 minutes)

- ❖ What is the fulfillment of the promise of God: Death and going to heaven or the physical resurrection to eternal life?
 - The resurrection.

Read Matthew 21:42

Mark 12:10

Luke 20:17

- ❖ As Christians why must Christ's sacrifice, death, and resurrection be, as Paul states in 15:3, "of first importance" in our lives?
 - Christ is our cornerstone.
 - Christ is the firstfruits of the Great Harvest that is the final resurrection on the Lord's Day.
 - The promise of our resurrection is based on the truth of Christ's resurrection.
- ❖ In the Nicene Creed we confess "I believe that we are one holy Christian and apostolic church". Why is the listing of witnesses that Paul gives us in 1 Corinthians 15:3–8 so important to us?
 - Our teaching (doctrine) confesses in the truth witnessed and taught by the apostles and others who had first hand knowledge of the risen Lord.
 - Scripture Alone: Sola Scriptura (Pg 21 of CPH's *Lutheranism 101*)
Lutherans believe that the Bible is the inspired Word of God and that it alone is the source and norm for what we believe and what we practice. Lutherans are not anti-reason or anti-tradition or anti-experience. We simply use the Scriptures to judge the validity of these things and not the other way around. We believe the Bible is God's perfect Word; therefore, we don't approach the Scriptures with a red pen!

Read Luther's Small Catechism questions 126, 127, and 141

- ❖ According to Luther's Small Catechism Scripture distinguishes Christ's work of salvation in two different states; Christ's state of humiliation and Christ's state of exaltation. How were these two states different and yet the same?
 - Christ was and is always 100% true God while also being 100% true man.
- ❖ What is the great hope of the resurrection?
 - The final return of Christ.
 - We are put back together body and spirit and made whole again as God created us.
 - This is the day that Christ is acknowledged as Lord as he should be.
 - This is the day that the will of God is done on earth as it is in heaven as we pray in the Lord's Prayer.
 - The day of God's great victory is not just for us, but for all of God's creation in the complete renewal of God's creation.