

## Sermon Discussion Questions for October 13, 2019

### Encouraged by Jesus' Resurrection – I Thessalonians 4:13-18

1. What key point stood out to you in the message?
  2. How does our view of death impact how we live our lives? How is death described for a believer in verse 13? (fallen asleep). What is key word right in the middle of verses 13 and 14? (Hope). In whom do we hope? BCBS (Blue Cross Blue Shield) has a new marketing slogan "Live Fearless." Shouldn't this be applicable for those that believe in Christ?
  3. How should belief in the resurrection impact our efforts in sharing our love and belief in Jesus?
  4. How does our view of death impact how we grieve the loss of loved ones? Is grieving eliminated? How does grieving with hope compare with grieving with no hope? Have you ever observed someone who absolutely believes death is the ultimate end of their existence?
  5. When Christians say they hope they go to heaven when they die, does this convey confidence or uncertainty? How is biblical hope in the resurrection different than the typical use of the word hope? Our eternal hope in Christ is based on the certainty of the resurrection of Jesus.
  6. What is the ultimate comforting promise in verse 17? What is Paul's final word to us in verse 18.
  7. In conjunction with this passage, read I Corinthians 15 (esp. vs. 35-58). What happens to our bodies when they are joined with Christ at his return? (either raised up from the dead or caught up in the air with Christ – see I Thessalonians 4:16-17). How does this also encourage us when we contemplate death or when we grieve over the death of a loved one?
- Remember to pray for each other's unique challenges and commit to pray throughout the week for one another.
  - Love others as Christ loves you.
  - Fill your mind and heart with the gospel of Christ Jesus.
  - Live out the gospel of Christ which calls for radical Love for God and Love for others.

