

SMALL GROUPS

Small Group Discussion Week of April 24th, 2011 Game, Set, Match...Victory!

1. There is something sweet and exciting about a big win. Tell about a time you were part of (or witnessed) a decisive victory. How did you feel at that moment?

Read: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

2. The apostle Paul presents the gospel (the message of salvation) in verses 3-8 of this chapter. Why are each of these four elements of the gospel important?

- Christ died for our sins
- Jesus was buried (He was really dead)
- He was raised back to life on the third day
- He appeared to many people after he arose

3. How have you experienced the presence, power, and love of the risen Christ in your life?

Read: 1 Corinthians 15:12-21

4. If Jesus *did not* truly rise from the dead, what does the apostle Paul say about Christians and our faith? (He lists many things...dig into this.)
5. Why is the literal, bodily resurrection of Jesus essential for the Christian faith to be valid and worth believing?

Read: 1 Corinthians 15:35-53

6. The apostle Paul is clear that our body today, and our body after we rise from the dead, will be very different? What are some of the ways we will be changed between this life and when we are raised with Jesus?

Read: 1 Corinthians 15:54-58

7. What different kinds of victories do Christians experience in this life (and eternity) because Jesus rose from the dead?
8. Because of the resurrection of Jesus, we are called to, "give ourselves fully to the work of the Lord." What is one way you are investing your time, heart, and life in God's work in this world?
9. What is one way God wants you to take a step forward and serve Him with greater passion and commitment? What step can you take to do this?