



### Discussion Guide

April 1, 2018

**Contrast:** This Changes Everything

### I Corinthians 15

#### Introduction:

I Corinthians 15

*Every year we celebrate that Jesus rose from the dead. The only thing that makes Good Friday good is that he didn't stay dead. He conquered death. For group, let's look at his death, burial and resurrection with fresh eyes and consider how our friends, family and coworkers might look at the resurrection too.*

#### Discussion Questions

1. Bart mentioned 3 categories of people that were in the room on Sunday. People that believe Jesus rose from the dead on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day, others were there on Sunday because of family and not because of the resurrection, and then there are people who *used* to believe the resurrection in the past, but don't believe it anymore. One of the things all three of those groups have in common is that we all struggle with doubts. Why is it hard for so many of us to believe that Jesus rose from the dead like Scripture says?
2. Jesus appeared to several people after he rose from the dead. Come up with a list of all the people that Scripture says he appeared to. What are some of the reasons that the writers of the New Testament Gospels and letters went into such detail about who he appeared to?
3. 1 Corinthians 15 contains a passage that many scholars believe is referencing an early church creed. Most of the ancient world could not read so these creeds or 'songs' were used to teach important information to a large group in a memorable way. Much like teaching kids their alphabet. Read 1 Corinthians 15:3-5. As a group, come up with your own creed that communicates these spiritual truths.
4. When Jesus died on the cross, his followers scattered. For all intents and purposes Christianity was dead. No one was waiting at the tomb for him to come back to life. Have you ever experienced a moment in your life, where your belief in God was challenged to the point you either walked away from faith, or seriously considered it? How did Jesus show back up in your life through that moment?



5. The followers of Jesus faced stiff persecution and harassment from the same religious leaders that had crucified Jesus. What could have possibly motivated them to resist those leaders and endure suffering? How deeply would you have to believe something to not just hold to that belief but continue sharing it at the risk of death?

6. At the end of the message Bart noted that if Jesus predicted that he would be crucified, and that on the third day he would rise from the dead and then actually did it, you must do something with that. Jesus called his shot and conquered death. If he truly did the impossible, why do we sometimes treat it like a mundane or everyday reality?

**Moving Forward:**

*Spend time praying as a group for all the people that came to Parkside on Easter. Whether it was their first time, or they've been here for years, pray that God would motivate ALL of us to have ears that hear and eyes that see that God's Word really happened. Pray that we would all be motivated to live like we believe it is true.*