



**READY** | **Risen**

Weddings, Funerals and celebrating the birth of a baby can all cause us to reflect on things *eternal*. It's often in these moments we most likely ask questions like "Where did we come from?", "What happens when we die?" and "Why am I here?". Times of great trial and/or sickness have us asking these *big* life questions.

*Describe a time that caused you to reflect on the reality of eternity.*

*Can you share any big life questions that you have found yourself asking?*

Death is a reality that all of us have to face. In **Reward** we talked about the ideas and coping mechanisms that people employ to deal with death.

*Can you share a time of trial where you have been comforted by the words of family or friends? Were you able to filter the eternal truths from the false ideas or empty coping mechanisms? Describe.*

*Can you share where you have spoken words of eternal hope to others? Comment on conversations with believers and non-believers.*

*Discuss how we navigate our way through conversations with others about life after death. Share words that are full of grace AND truth.*

Col 4:6

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Ro 1:14-17

Our post modern culture has bought into what is biblically understood as a Greek mindset. Powered by pride, this mindset exults the intellect of man and concludes that knowledge is power.

Christians are called to live by *faith*, which is completely countercultural in our day and age. Nevertheless, this is not blind faith.

*What evidence most convinces you of God's existence, goodness + gospel? (e.g. morality, design, supernatural experiences)*

*Which testimonies and experiences can you draw upon in your life, as you invite others to explore Christianity?*

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Ro 3:23  
Matt 25  
Matt 6:24-25  
1 Cor 1:18

The message of the cross is offensive. It confronts sin. It forces a decision. It calls us to die. The scriptures actually describe the message as foolishness to those who are perishing.

*What is it about the message of the cross that people you know find hard to accept?*

*Comment on how each of the following play an important role in how we share the gospel:*

**#1. prayer #2. partnership with God #3. patience #4. power #5. persistence**

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The message and the mission of Jesus are not complete without resurrection. Jesus' death means atonement for sin. Jesus' resurrection affords the gift of new life and security of a future hope. This is what sets the Gospel message apart from every other faith and world religion.

1 Cor 15

*Describe how your life embodies the resurrection power and life of Jesus. What sets you apart? How are you different?*

Phil 2:15

Jn 10:10

Rom 6:10-11

Col 1:27

*In what specific areas of your life do you desire breakthrough or increased fruitfulness in this season? How will it help you witness more effectively?*

Both the Old and New Testament give us glimpses of what we can look forward to upon Jesus' return and throughout eternity in Heaven. The scriptures describe a throne room where Jesus is adored forever as both the Lamb who was slain and the Lion of Judah, the Faithful Witness and the Bridegroom King.

Rev 1, 5, 19

*How do we actively cultivate an atmosphere of worship, adoration and intimacy in the throne room of our own hearts?*

Ps 100

Jesus is coming soon. We've heard it a thousand times.

*How do you sustain a heart-longing for Jesus and His return?*

*How does the reality of a returning Christ impact your today?*

**End of session.**

**Next: Rabbi**