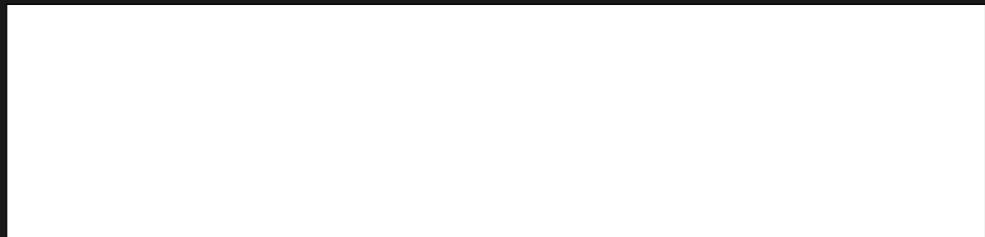


ALIVE

RESURRECTION.
CHANGES EVERYTHING.



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Welcome

Hey friends!

Welcome to Mid Year Conference 2020! MYC may be looking a lot different this year but thanks for deciding to spend a week of your holidays with over 100 students from ES and FOCUS as we worship, pray, read God's word and learn together, as well as making heaps of new friends.

This year's Mid-Year Conference is going to be packed full of fun, food, frisbee and great teaching from God's word. MYC is also a great place to meet friends so please don't be afraid to say hi to people who you don't yet know!

Conference can be exhausting and draining, so please make sure you look after yourself during the week. Rest well, get enough sleep, stay warm, eat properly and drinks lots of water.

This book contains everything you should need to know over conference so please make sure you take it to all of the sessions and review groups. This book provides plenty of space for taking notes and writing down questions that you want to take to your review groups or ask Jimbo during question time.

If you have any questions or concerns during conference, please speak to a member of the team, one of your bible study leaders or one of our lovely ES or FOCUS staff members.

Above all we hope and pray that over conference you will each grow in your love and relationship with Christ and really enjoy this time together.

Love, the MYC 2020 Team!

Vineeth, Bec, Jacqui, Stephen, Julia, Annie and Reuben.

ES + FOCUS

Both ES and FOCUS exist to reach the 35,000 students on our campuses with the good news of Jesus Christ to present everyone mature in him.



ES is one of the oldest and most active clubs on our campuses. At Adelaide uni, we have been prayerfully sharing the good news with our campus since 1934.

ES has a primary focus towards local undergraduate students, but many FOCUS students join in with ES activities too.



Our universities have significant numbers of international students and FOCUS aims to help them make friends and meet Jesus while they are here in Adelaide.

If you're a local student, please make our international friends feel welcome!

Our **doctrinal basis** (held by AFES groups right across the country)

1. The Divine Inspiration and infallibility of the Holy Scripture as originally given and its supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct.
2. The Unity of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit in the Godhead.
3. The universal sinfulness and guilt of human nature since the Fall, rendering humanity subject to God's wrath and condemnation.
4. Redemption from the guilt, penalty and power of sin only through the sacrificial death, as our Representative and Substitute, of Jesus Christ, the incarnate Son of God.
5. The conception of Jesus Christ by the Holy Spirit and His birth of the Virgin Mary.
6. The bodily Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the Dead.
7. The necessity of the work of the Holy Spirit to make the death of Christ effective in the individual sinner, granting that person repentance toward God and faith in Jesus Christ.
8. The indwelling and work of the Holy Spirit in the believer.
9. The expectation of the personal return of Jesus Christ.

Our **club objectives**

1. Personal faith in Jesus Christ as saviour and Lord
2. Personal growth in godliness
3. Personal witness at home and abroad

Useful Info

Prayer at MYC

There is an optional prayer time in the rooms off the foyer 9:30-9:50am each morning. Getting to at least one during the week is something you should definitely do! They are a great experience.

Medical/First aid

Our designated first aid people are Anne Zwijnenburg and Emily Zdanowicz

Call 000 in the case of an emergency and notify Reuben (0408 852 668) about any injuries or other serious incidents.

Night time optional activities

The team has suggested optional activities for Monday - Thursday nights. These will be announced during the day with info on posters in the foyer. Feel free to come along but do consider how you will travel home. If you are lost or not sure what is happening, contact Reuben (0408 852 668) or Vineeth (0423 695 781)

Security

Neither ES nor Influencers will bear any responsibility for damage or theft of your property. Please ensure that any valuable items are on your person or stored securely at all times.

Bookstall

The MYC bookstall is held at the back of the auditorium and will be open after each of the morning sessions as well as during lunch. We accept card payments.

Photos

If you would prefer that your photo not be used for promotional material and/or posted on social media, please tell Vineeth.

If you take any great photos that you'd like to share, email them to myc@nt.es.org.au and share on social media. If you share them on social media, use #MYC2020 so everyone can see them!

Lost property

Please leave any low-value items of lost property on curved desk at back of auditorium. Give any high value items of lost property to a staffworker or the rego desk.

Question time

There is a Q+A scheduled for Thursday afternoon. You can ask about anything raised by talks, workshops or review groups.

Text your questions to **0481073866**

Parking

If you need to drive and park, you can do so for free at the Trinity church city carpark (enter off Morphett St. slip lane). We have a limited number of available car spaces so if you would like to use the Trinity carpark, please email adelaide@trinity.church and in the subject line, please write the following: "ESer attending MYC - Rego XXX-123"

Overview

The MYC Teaching Programme

1. Main Talks

These plenary sessions will help us think through our topic from the “big picture”

2. Workshops

These staff-led workshops will develop your ability to “think theologically” by exploring related topics and aspects of the Christian life.

Note: ‘FOCUS on Jesus’ OR ‘Finding your place in God’s story’ workshop is compulsory for first-timers (but all are welcome!)

see page 46 for more details on each workshop + locations

3. Review Groups

These student-led small groups will help you get to know a few other ESers really well and have a chance to debrief generally

4. Question Times

Self-explanatory! An MYC favourite ...
Text your questions to 0481073866

Talk 1. Resurrection Changes...

Monday

PART A: Resurrection changes... the predicament we are all in

Acts 17:11 Now the Berean Jews were of more noble character than those in Thessalonica, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true.

1. The problem of Death

2. “He who must not be named...”

“I regret each of the deaths, but that’s everyone’s destiny.”

(Jair Bolsonaro, President of Brazil, <https://www.smh.com.au/world/south-america/death-is-everyone-s-destiny-bolsonaro-s-words-of-comfort-20200604-p54zhe.html>)

Ecc 3:19 Surely the fate of human beings is like that of the animals; the same fate awaits them both: As one dies, so dies the other. All have the same breath; humans have no advantage over animals. Everything is meaningless.

3. Our inadequate responses

3.1 Denial

“If it’s all about Me, then my demise would indeed seem like an unspeakable tragedy. If we have embraced a materialistic ethic, death’s greatest significance is likely to be that it marks the end of our ceaseless struggle for more stuff, more money, more power, more status or more security.” (Hugh Mackay, *The Good Life*, 241)

3.2 Fear

“They fear death precisely because they feel it will snatch away their future from them, causing them to miss out on so much. . . . All such fears have some rational basis, since we tend to fear the unknown, and death is the most unknowable thing of all. And yet, considering that death is the only absolute certainty for all of us,, it’s odd that we have traditionally been so reluctant to talk openly and candidly about it, to face its inevitability and prepare for it.” (Hugh Mackay, *The Good Life*, 237-239)

“In psychology, terror management theory argues that fear of our mortality is a powerful motivator for humans, and we construct personal and cultural means to manage it, to allow us to accept the inevitability of death – worldviews, values, beliefs, rituals. . . . increased fear of death might be evidence of how Western culture is failing us.” (Richard Eckersley, *Young People’s Fears for the Future: Less Global, More Personal in The Futurist*, 2012)

“...people’s response to concerns of global catastrophes ‘is not to cry out or ring alarms’ but ‘to go silent, go numb’...this ‘numbing of the psyche’ takes a heavy toll, including an impoverishment of emotional and sensory life. Energy expended in suppressing despair ‘is diverted from more creative uses, depleting resilience and imagination needed for fresh visions and strategies.” (<https://www.resilience.org/stories/2020-03-16/climate-change-pandemics-and-economic-turmoil-provoke-existential-fears-for-humanitys-future>)

Heb 2:15 ... those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death.

3.3 Misdiagnosis: “We’re just b_____”

Secular Salvation Schema (Mark Sayers):

i. Creation/Eden =

ii. The Fall/Problem =

iii. Sin =

iv. Salvation =

v. Heaven =

3.4 Resignation/Acceptance

“Not everyone has the luxury of knowing when the end is likely to come, but for those who do, a remarkable clarity becomes possible. Only then can we be sure how long we were to have on this earth; only then can we **finally relax into an understanding and acceptance** of the value and meaning of our lives – for us, and for those we tried to love.”

(Hugh Mackay, *The Good Life*, 253)

‘Find happiness by contemplating your mortality’

“The WeCroak app is inspired by a Bhutanese folk saying: to be a happy person, one must contemplate death five times daily. Each day, we’ll send you five invitations to stop and think about death. Our invitations come at random times and at any moment, just like death. When they come, you can open the app to reveal a quote about death from a poet, philosopher, or notable thinker.”

(*wecroak.com*)

3.5 Fatalism

“More than anything, what one wants from religion is an assurance of a happy ending, some sense that this won’t all be a random, horrific nonsense that winds up with decline, horror and meaningless death. ... We should allow ourselves to dwell in a state of post-religious melancholy... all the while bravely knowing that we are condemned to be forever alone, unassured, ashamed and scared.”

(<https://www.theschooloflife.com/thebookoflife/nostalgia-for-religion-one-cant-believe-in>)

3.6 Fairytales +irrational hopes

“Simba, let me tell you something that my father told me. Look at the stars. The great kings of the past look down on us from those stars... So whenever you feel alone, just remember that those kings will always be there to guide you... and so will I”

(Mufasa, *The Lion King*)

“Death is awful. We should never get used to it... We don’t have to romanticise death – and I certainly don’t want to.”

(Margaret Rice, *A Good Death*, 2019)

4. So where can we find a better response?

“The divine inspiration and infallibility of Holy Scripture as originally given and its supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct”

(Evangelical Students Doctrinal Basis - Point 1)

Gen 2:7 Then the Lord God formed a man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.⁸ Now the Lord God had planted a garden in the east, in Eden; and there he put the man he had formed.⁹ The Lord God made all kinds of trees grow out of the ground—trees that were pleasing to the eye and good for food. In the middle of the garden were the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

Gen 2:16 And the Lord God commanded the man, “You are free to eat from any tree in the garden;¹⁷ but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, **for when you eat from it you will certainly die.**”

Gen 3:4 “You will not certainly die,” the serpent said to the woman.

Gen 3:19 “By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return.”

Gen 3:22 And the Lord God said, “The man has now become like one of us, knowing good and evil. He must not be allowed to reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life and eat, and live forever.”

Rom 6:23 For the wages of sin is death...

S _____
I _____
N _____

1 Cor 15:56 The sting of _____ is _____, and the power of _____ is the _____.

Heb 9:27 ...people are destined to die once, and after that to face judgment.

Rev 20:11 Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. The earth and the heavens fled from his presence, and there was no place for them.¹² And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life. The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books.¹³ The sea gave up the dead that were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them, and each person was judged according to what they had done.¹⁴ Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death.¹⁵ Anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life was thrown into the lake of fire.

PART B: Resurrection changes... the Story of the Bible

5. Biblical Theology

one c _____ story
an u _____ story
a story c _____ around _____

Luke 24:44 [Jesus] said to them, “This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms.”⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures.

Mark 1:15 “The time has come,” he said. “The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!”

|

The Kingdom of God =
God's p_____
...living in God's p_____
...under God's r_____
...enjoying God's b_____
(His p_____, p_____ + p_____)

6. The Pattern of the Kingdom: Creation

Gen 5:1 This is the written account of Adam's family line.

When God created mankind, he made them in the likeness of God. ²He created them male and female and blessed them. And he named them "Mankind" when they were created.

³When Adam had lived 130 years, he had a son in his own likeness, in his own image; and he named him Seth... ⁵Altogether, Adam lived a total of 930 years, *and then he died*. ⁶When Seth had lived 105 years, he became the father of Enosh... ⁸Altogether, Seth lived a total of 912 years, *and then he died*. ⁹When Enosh had lived ⁹⁰ years, he became the father of Kenan... ¹¹Altogether, Enosh lived a total of 905 years, *and then he died*. ¹²When Kenan had lived ⁷⁰ years, he became the father of Mahalalel... ¹⁴Altogether, Kenan lived a total of 910 years, *and then he died*...

7. The Promised Kingdom: Abraham

Rom 4:17 [Abraham] is our father in the sight of God, in whom he believed—**the God who gives life to the dead** and calls into being things that were not. ¹⁸Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as it had been said to him, "So shall your offspring be." ¹⁹Without weakening in his faith, he faced the fact that **his body was as good as dead**—since he was about a hundred years old—and that **Sarah's womb was also dead**

8. The Partial Kingdom: Covenant with Moses + David

Deut 30:19 This day I call the heavens and the earth as witnesses against you that **I have set before you life and death**, blessings and curses. **Now choose life**, so that you and your children may live ²⁰and that you may love the Lord your God, listen to his voice, and hold fast to him. **For the LORD is your life**, and he will give you many years in the land he swore to give to your fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

Deut 28:2 All these blessings will come on you and accompany you if you obey the Lord your God: ³You will be blessed in the city and blessed in the country. ⁴The fruit of your womb will be blessed, and the crops of your land and the young of your livestock—the calves of your herds and the lambs of your flocks. ⁵Your basket and your kneading trough will be blessed. ⁶You will be blessed when you come in and blessed when you go out.

Ecc 9:7 Go, eat your food with gladness, and drink your wine with a joyful heart, for God has already approved what you do. ⁸Always be clothed in white, and always anoint your head with oil. ⁹Enjoy life with your wife, whom you love, all the days of this meaningless life that God has given you under the sun—all your meaningless days. For this is your lot in life and in your toilsome labor under the sun. ¹⁰Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might, for in the realm of the dead, where you are going, there is neither working nor planning nor knowledge nor wisdom.

9. The Prophesied Kingdom: Hope of the New Covenant

Isa 26:19 But your dead will live, Lord; their bodies will rise— let those who dwell in the dust wake up and shout for joy— your dew is like the dew of the morning; the earth will give birth to her dead.

Isa 25:7 On this mountain [the LORD] will destroy the shroud that enfolds all peoples, the sheet that covers all nations; 8he will swallow up death forever. The Sovereign Lord will wipe away the tears from all faces; he will remove his people's disgrace from all the earth. The Lord has spoken.

Ezek 37:1 The hand of the Lord was on me, and he brought me out by the Spirit of the Lord and set me in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ²He led me back and forth among them, and I saw a great many bones on the floor of the valley, bones that were very dry. ³He asked me, “Son of man, can these bones live?”

I said, “Sovereign Lord, you alone know.”

⁴Then he said to me, “Prophesy to these bones and say to them, ‘Dry bones, hear the word of the Lord! ⁵This is what the Sovereign Lord says to these bones: I will make breath enter you, and you will come to life. ⁶I will attach tendons to you and make flesh come upon you and cover you with skin; I will put breath in you, and you will come to life. Then you will know that I am the Lord.’ ”

⁷So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I was prophesying, there was a noise, a rattling sound, and the bones came together, bone to bone. ⁸I looked, and tendons and flesh appeared on them and skin covered them, but there was no breath in them.

⁹Then he said to me, “Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to it, ‘This is what the Sovereign Lord says: Come, breath, from the four winds and breathe into these slain, that they may live.’ ” ¹⁰So I prophesied as he commanded me, and breath entered them; they came to life and stood up on their feet—a vast army.

¹¹Then he said to me: “Son of man, these bones are the people of Israel. They say, ‘Our bones are dried up and our hope is gone; we are cut off.’ ¹²Therefore prophesy and say to them: ‘This is what the Sovereign Lord says: My people, I am going to open your graves and bring you up from them; I will bring you back to the land of Israel. ¹³Then you, my people, will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and bring you up from them. ¹⁴I will put my Spirit in you and you will live, and I will settle you in your own land. Then you will know that I the Lord have spoken, and I have done it, declares the Lord.’ ”

Hos 6:1 Come, let us return to the Lord; for he has torn us, that he may heal us; he has struck us down, and he will bind us up. ²After two days he will revive us; on the third day he will raise us up, that we may live before him.

Dan 12:2 Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake: some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt.

10. The Present Kingdom: Jesus

Mark 12:18 And Sadducees came to him, who say that there is no resurrection. And they asked him a question, saying, ¹⁹“Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man’s brother dies and leaves a wife, but leaves no child, the man must take the widow and raise up offspring for his brother. ²⁰There were seven brothers; the first took a wife, and when he died left no offspring. ²¹And the second took her, and died, leaving no offspring. And the third likewise. ²²And the seven left no offspring. Last of all the woman also died. ²³In the resurrection, when they rise again, whose wife will she be? For the seven had her as wife.”

²⁴Jesus said to them, “Is this not the reason you are wrong, because you know neither the Scriptures nor the power of God? ²⁵For when they rise from the dead, they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven. ²⁶And as for the dead being raised, have you not read in the book of Moses, in the passage about the bush, how God spoke to him, saying, ‘I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob?’ ²⁷He is not God of the dead, but of the living. You are quite wrong.”

2 Tim 1:10 ...it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

John 5:21 For as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, **so also the Son gives life to whom he will...** ²⁴Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me **has eternal life.** He does not come into judgment, but has **passed from death to life.**

11. The Proclaimed Kingdom: The Last Days (Today)

12. The Perfected Kingdom: New Creation (Future)

Rev 21:1 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ² And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. ⁴ He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away... 22:1 Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb ² through the middle of the street of the city; also, on either side of the river, the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit each month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.

13. Implications:

13.1 Not going to the gym

13.2 Forgetting leg-day

Talk 2: The Resurrection Changes...

Tuesday

PART A: Resurrection changes... our assumptions about death

1. If not true?

“At its very core the story of Easter has nothing to do with angelic announcements or empty tombs. It has nothing to do with time periods, whether three days, forty days, or fifty days. It has nothing to do with resuscitated bodies that appear and disappear or that finally exit this world in a heavenly ascension.”

(Bishop John Shelby Spong, *Resurrection: Myth or Reality?*, 12)

“The resurrection? I’m a big believer in it. I absolutely love the idea of it. Love it! I don’t care whether it happened literally or not. Anything is possible. Things happen that no scientists can explain. But that’s not really the point—that’s just the mystery of faith. It’s the deep symbolism of it that I love. The idea of God proving himself in that way. And I love what it stands for. . . But I am inspired by the idea of the afterlife, in the same way I’m inspired by the resurrection. Maybe it’s just a story, but it’s a beautiful story and it feels better to believe than not believe, at least for me.” (Marija, quoted in Hugh Mackay, *The Good Life*)

1 Cor 15:12 But if it is preached that Christ has been raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³ If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. ¹⁴ And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith. ¹⁵ More than that, we are then found to be false witnesses about God, for we have testified about God that he raised Christ from the dead. But he did not raise him if in fact the dead are not raised. ¹⁶ For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised either. ¹⁷ And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins. ¹⁸ Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ are lost. ¹⁹ If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. ²⁰ But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead. . .

1.1 The question of doubt

John 20:24 Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord!”

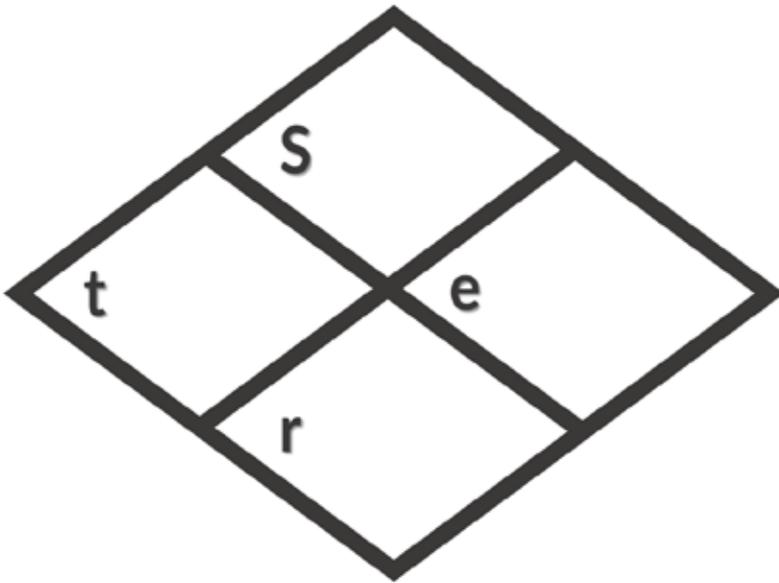
But he said to them, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.”

²⁶ A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.”

²⁸ Thomas said to him, “My Lord and my God!”

²⁹ Then Jesus told him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

³⁰ Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. ³¹ But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.



Matt 5:45 [God] causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous

“The divine inspiration and infallibility of Holy Scripture as originally given and its supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct”
(Evangelical Students Doctrinal Basis - Point 1)

2 Tim 3:16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,¹⁷ so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

Jer 17:9 The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it?

2.1 The nature of historical evidence

2.2 The worldview of modernism

“a violation of the laws of nature”
(David Hume, *An Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding*, 76)

- i. Deism vs theism
- ii. Regular vs significant moments
- iii. Category/class of an event

2.3 The question of God

3. Is it true that Jesus rose from the dead?

“Once a man has died, and the dust has soaked up his blood, there is no resurrection.”
(Aeschylus, *Eumenides*, 5th century BC)

“What we do in this lifetime echoes into eternity.”
(Maximus, *Gladiator*)

Acts 17:18 A group of Epicurean and Stoic philosophers began to debate with him. Some of them asked, "What is this babbling trying to say?" Others remarked, "He seems to be advocating foreign gods." They said this because Paul was preaching the good news about Jesus and the resurrection.¹⁹ Then they took him and brought him to a meeting of the Areopagus, where they said to him, "May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting?"²⁰ You are bringing some strange ideas to our ears, and we would like to know what they mean."

The 2 main pieces of historical evidence:

- i.
- ii.

3.1 Jesus never existed

3.2 Jesus' resurrection was a metaphor

3.3 The resurrection accounts were made up much later

3.4 Jesus was never on the cross in the first place

"That they said (in boast), "We killed Christ Jesus the son of Mary, the Messenger of Allah";- but they killed him not, nor crucified him, but so it was made to appear to them, and those who differ therein are full of doubts, with no (certain) knowledge, but only conjecture to follow, for of a surety they killed him not:- Nay, Allah raised him up unto Himself; and Allah is Exalted in Power, Wise" (Qur'an 4 :157-158 - 609-632 A.D.)

"Christus, from whom the name had its origin, suffered the extreme penalty during the reign of Tiberius at the hands of one of our procurators, Pontius Pilatus" (Tacitus, *Annals*, 15.44 - 115 A.D.)

3.5 The 'swoon' theory

3.6 The women went to the wrong tomb

Mark 15:47 Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joseph saw where he was laid.

3.7 Stolen corpse theory

3.8 Resurrection appearances were mass delusions/hallucinations

4. Responding to the evidence

4.1 "My Lord and my God!"

4.2 Sharing the evidence/testimony

PART B: Resurrection changes... the Resurrection???

John 11:1 Now a man named Lazarus was sick. He was from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ² (This Mary, whose brother Lazarus now lay sick, was the same one who poured perfume on the Lord and wiped his feet with her hair.) ³ So the sisters sent word to Jesus, "Lord, the one you love is sick."

⁴ When he heard this, Jesus said, "This sickness will not end in death. No, it is for God's glory so that God's Son may be glorified through it." ⁵ Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus.

⁶ So when he heard that Lazarus was sick, he stayed where he was two more days, ⁷ and then he said to his disciples, "Let us go back to Judea."

⁸ "But Rabbi," they said, "a short while ago the Jews there tried to stone you, and yet you are going back?"

⁹ Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Anyone who walks in the daytime will not stumble, for they see by this world's light. ¹⁰ It is when a person walks at night that they stumble, for they have no light."

¹¹ After he had said this, he went on to tell them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep; but I am going there to wake him up."

¹² His disciples replied, "Lord, if he sleeps, he will get better." ¹³ Jesus had been speaking of his death, but his disciples thought he meant natural sleep.

¹⁴ So then he told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead, ¹⁵ and for your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him."

¹⁶ Then Thomas (also known as Didymus) said to the rest of the disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

¹⁷ On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. ¹⁸ Now Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁹ and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother. ²⁰ When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home.

²¹ "Lord," Martha said to Jesus, "if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask."

²³ Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again."

²⁴ Martha answered, "I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day."

²⁵ Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; ²⁶ and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

²⁷ "Yes, Lord," she replied, "I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world."

²⁸ After she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary aside. "The Teacher is here," she said, "and is asking for you." ²⁹ When Mary heard this, she got up quickly and went to him.

³⁰ Now Jesus had not yet entered the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him.

³¹ When the Jews who had been with Mary in the house, comforting her, noticed how quickly she got up and went out, they followed her, supposing she was going to the tomb to mourn there.

³² When Mary reached the place where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died."

³³ When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled. ³⁴ "Where have you laid him?" he asked.

"Come and see, Lord," they replied.

³⁵ Jesus wept.

³⁶ Then the Jews said, "See how he loved him!"

³⁷ But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

³⁸ Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. ³⁹ "Take away the stone," he said.

"But, Lord," said Martha, the sister of the dead man, "by this time there is a bad odor, for he has been there four days."

⁴⁰ Then Jesus said, "Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?"

⁴¹ So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. ⁴² I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me."

⁴³ When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" ⁴⁴ The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face.

Jesus said to them, "Take off the grave clothes and let him go."

5. Jesus' response to our problem

5.1 Timing is everything: Jesus is too late

Not a _____ but t _____

5.2 Timing is everything: when are we raised?

Daniel 12:2 Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake: some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt. ³Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever. ⁴But you, Daniel, roll up and seal the words of the scroll until the time of the end.

"...we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen."
(Nicene Creed - 4th Cent A.D.)

5.3 Timing is everything: Jesus is too early

The o _____ of the a _____

Rev 21:4 He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away. ⁵He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!"

Both n _____ and n _____ - y _____

5.4 Jesus snorts

"The Bible everywhere views human death not as a natural but as a penal event. It is an alien intrusion into God's good world, and not part of his original intention for humankind...Throughout Scripture, then, death (both physical and spiritual) is seen as a divine judgment on human disobedience... Hence too the violent 'snorting' of indignation which Jesus experienced in his confrontation with death at the graveside of Lazarus. Death was a foreign body. Jesus resisted it; he could not come to terms with it."

(John Stott, *The Cross of Christ*, 65)

"...faith is generally nothing more than the permission religious people give one another to believe things strongly without evidence."

(Sam Harris, *Letter to a Christian Nation*, 110)

'Faith', trust and unbelief

5.5 Jesus weeps

Ps 116:8 For you, Lord, have delivered me from death, my eyes from stumbling,⁹ that I may walk before the Lord in the land of the living. . .¹⁵ Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his faithful servants.

“Rather, the same sin and death, the same unbelief, that prompted his outrage, also generated his grief. Those who follow Jesus as his disciples today do well to learn the same tension—that grief and compassion without outrage reduce to mere sentiment, while outrage without grief hardens into self-righteous arrogance and irascibility”
(D.A. Carson, *The Gospel According to John*, 416)

6. Responding to Jesus – THE Resurrection and the life

6.1 Can you trust a man like this?

6.2 How would you know if you actually believed this?

“Christ is either Lord of all, or He is not Lord at all.”
(Hudson Taylor - missionary to China)

Talk 3. Resurrection Changes...

Wednesday

PART A: Resurrection changes... who Jesus is

1. Kanye is right...

Rom 1:1 Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God—²the gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures ³regarding his Son, who as to his earthly life was a descendant of David, ⁴and who through the Spirit of holiness was appointed the Son of God in power by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord.

1.1 The heresy of Adoptionism

2. “The Son of God” in the Old Testament

2 Tim 2:8 Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, descended from David. This is my gospel

2.1 The problem of Judges (+ why you should be a monarchist!)

Judg 21:25 In those days Israel had no king; everyone did as they saw fit.

‘Moral perspectivalism’: law-b_____ vs law-m_____

2.2 The promise to King David

2 Sam 7:11 ‘The Lord declares to you that the Lord himself will establish a house for you: ¹²When your days are over and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, your own flesh and blood, and I will establish his kingdom. ¹³He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. ¹⁴I will be his father, and he will be my son. When he does wrong, I will punish him with a rod wielded by men, with floggings inflicted by human hands. ¹⁵But my love will never be taken away from him, as I took it away from Saul, whom I removed from before you. ¹⁶Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me; your throne will be established forever.’

Promises to David:

i. David’s offspring will...

ii. David’s offspring will...

iii David’s offspring will...

3. “The Son of God” in the New Testament

Luke 1:30 “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. ³²He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, ³³and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.”

“The Son of God” = D_____ (not D_____)

Hebrew	Greek	English
מָשִׁיחַ	Χριστός	--
M	C	A K

“The resurrection doesn’t **make** Jesus into the second person of the trinity, God the Son. God the Son has been God the Son from all eternity. But it does **enthroned** Jesus of Nazareth, God the Son incarnate, as both Lord and Messiah. It establishes him as the true king of Israel (Messiah) and therefore as the rightful ruler of all creation (Lord)... you could put it like this: At the resurrection, God the Son became the Son of God.”
(Rory Shiner, *Raised Forever*, 56)

Acts 2:22 “Fellow Israelites, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know. ²³This man was handed over to you by God’s deliberate plan and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross. ²⁴But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him. ²⁵David said about him:
“ ‘I saw the Lord always before me. Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken. ²⁶Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will rest in hope, ²⁷because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead, you will not let your holy one see decay. ²⁸You have made known to me the paths of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence.’
²⁹“Fellow Israelites, I can tell you confidently that the patriarch David died and was buried, and his tomb is here to this day. ³⁰But he was a prophet and knew that God had promised him on oath that he would place one of his descendants on his throne. ³¹Seeing what was to come, he spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, that he was not abandoned to the realm of the dead, nor did his body see decay. ³²God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of it. ³³Exalted to the right hand of God, he has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear. ³⁴For David did not ascend to heaven, and yet he said, “ ‘The LORD said to my Lord: “Sit at my right hand ³⁵until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet.” ’
³⁶“Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah.”

“LORD” = Y_____

“Lord” = m_____

Ps 110:1 Yahweh says to my **Master**: “Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet.” ²**Yahweh** will extend your mighty scepter from Zion, saying, “Rule in the midst of your enemies!” ³Your troops will be willing on your day of battle. Arrayed in holy splendor, your young men will come to you like dew from the morning’s womb. ⁴**Yahweh** has sworn and will not change his mind: “You are a priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek.” ⁵ **The Master** is at your right hand; he will crush kings on the day of his wrath. ⁶He will judge the nations, heaping up the dead and crushing the rulers of the whole earth. ⁷He will drink from a brook along the way, and so he will lift his head high.

KING -- PRIEST – JUDGE

1 Cor 15:25 For [Jesus] must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. ²⁶The last enemy to be destroyed is death. ²⁷For he “has put everything under his feet.” Now when it says that “everything” has been put under him, it is clear that this does not include God himself, who put everything under Christ.

Heb 7:23 Now there have been many of those priests, since death prevented them from continuing in office; ²⁴but because Jesus lives forever, he has a permanent priesthood. ²⁵Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them.

4. “Jesus is King” – and that’s a problem!

4.1 Moral Therapeutic Deism

- i. There is god who created and ordered the world and watches over human life on earth.
- ii. God wants people to be good, nice and fair to each other, as taught in the Bible and most world religions.
- iii. The central goal of life is to be happy and to feel good about oneself.
- iv. God does not need to be particularly involved in one’s life except when God is needed to resolve a problem.
- v. Good people go to heaven when they die

(Smith & Lundquist Denton, *Soul Searching: The Religious and Spiritual Lives of American Teenagers*, 162-163)

4.2 The Copernican Revolution

“There’s a Jesus who is very popular these days. We can call him Jesus-lite. He offers to do anything we want, without demanding anything in return. He allows us to pay lip service to him being King, while maintaining control of our lives. He’s a fill-me-up-and-forgive-me-but-leave-me-as-I-am Jesus. The only drawback with Jesus-lite is that he doesn’t exist, so he can’t help and he can’t save. The real Jesus is the Christ, ruling in power and glory. There is no coming to him without placing ourselves under him.”

(Mike McKinley, *The Resurrection In Your Life*, Kindle Locations 1646-1650)

5. “And they will reign forever and ever..”

Rev 11:15...The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Messiah, and he will reign for ever and ever.

Rev 22:3 No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him. ⁴They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. ⁵There will be no more night. They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for the Lord God will give them light. And they will reign for ever and ever.

Gen 1:26 Then God said, “Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.”

²⁷ So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. ²⁸ God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground.”

“God is the loving ruler of the world. He made the world. And he made us rulers of the world under Him.”

(Box 1, *2 Ways to Live*, Matthias Media)

Ps 8:3 When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, ⁴ what is mankind that you are mindful of them, human beings that you care for them? ⁵ You have made them a little lower than the angels and crowned them with glory and honor. ⁶ You made them rulers over the works of your hands; you put everything under their feet!

Heb 2:6 But there is a place where someone has testified: “What is mankind that you are mindful of them, a son of man that you care for him? ⁷ You made them a little lower than the angels; you crowned them with glory and honor ⁸ and put everything under their feet.”

In putting everything under them, God left nothing that is not subject to them. Yet at present we do not see everything subject to them. ⁹ But we do see Jesus, who was made lower than the angels for a little while, now crowned with glory and honor because he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

¹⁰ In bringing many sons and daughters to glory, it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through what he suffered. ¹¹ Both the one who makes people holy and those who are made holy are of the same family...

¹⁴ Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he

might break the power of him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil—¹⁵ and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death. ¹⁶For surely it is not angels he helps, but Abraham’s descendants. ¹⁷For this reason he had to be made like them, fully human in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

“Ruling over the creation is the general task of humanity of ‘Adam’, but it was in a specific sense the task of the Messiah. In a world in rebellion against God, the Messiah, the son of David, was commissioned to put all his enemies under his feet. And so in his resurrection, Jesus fulfills Adam’s role and David’s role. In his resurrection, he becomes the True Human to whom God has given the rule of creation, and he becomes the True Messiah, the one commissioned by God to re-conquer a world in rebellion, and to defeat the last enemy: death.”

(Rory Shiner, *Raised Forever*, 93-94)

PART B: Resurrection changes... your future

6. What about me?

1 Thess 4:13 Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope. ¹⁴For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him. ¹⁵According to the Lord’s word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁶For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. ¹⁸Therefore encourage one another with these words.

6.1 Union with Christ

Rom 8:37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Eph 2:4 But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, ⁵made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. ⁶And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus

6.2 Naptime

1 Cor 15:6 After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers and sisters at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep.

Eph 5:14 This is why it is said: “Wake up, sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

7. How can a good God allow death + suffering?

Work out your theology of suffering before it comes

‘Everything is awesome!’?

7.1 The 'pleasure-pain' worldview

1 Pet 1:3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,⁴ and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you,⁵ who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.⁶ In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials.⁷ These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.

7.2 Jesus the judge will remove all the weeds

Matt 13:24 Jesus told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field.²⁵ But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away.²⁶ When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared.

²⁷"The owner's servants came to him and said, 'Sir, didn't you sow good seed in your field? Where then did the weeds come from?'

²⁸" 'An enemy did this,' he replied.

"The servants asked him, 'Do you want us to go and pull them up?'

²⁹" 'No,' he answered, 'because while you are pulling the weeds, you may uproot the wheat with them.³⁰ Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the harvesters: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn. . .

³⁷ He answered, "The one who sowed the good seed is the Son of Man.³⁸ The field is the world, and the good seed stands for the people of the kingdom. The weeds are the people of the evil one,³⁹ and the enemy who sows them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters are angels.

⁴⁰"As the weeds are pulled up and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of the age.⁴¹ The Son of Man will send out his angels, and they will weed out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil.⁴² They will throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.⁴³ Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Whoever has ears, let them hear.

7.3 Pain warns you of an even greater problem

7.4 Mental illness

Not a _____ but p _____

"A Long Obedience in the Same Direction."

(Eugene Peterson)

Phil 1:21 For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.²² If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labor for me. Yet what shall I choose? I do not know!²³ I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far;²⁴ but it is more necessary for you that I remain in the body.²⁵ Convinced of this, I know that I will remain, and I will continue with all of you for your progress and joy in the faith

"God takes the long view, and he understands that sometimes delay is what is best for us... the development of character, perseverance, and eschatological hope are more important than simply relief from suffering."

(D.A. Carson, *Scandalous: The Cross and Resurrection of Jesus*,121)

Ecc 7:2 It is better to go to a house of mourning than to go to a house of feasting, for death is the destiny of everyone; the living should take this to heart.³ Frustration is better than laughter, because a sad face is good for the heart.⁴ The heart of the wise is in the house of mourning, but the heart of fools is in the house of pleasure.

7.5 Expectations + eschatology

HAPPINESS = REALITY / EXPECTATIONS

2 Tim 3:12 In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted

2 Tim 2:16 But avoid irreverent babble, for it will lead people into more and more ungodliness,¹⁷ and their talk will spread like gangrene. Among them are Hymenaeus and Philetus,¹⁸ who have swerved from the truth, saying that the resurrection has already happened. They are upsetting the faith of some.

“That evening, the child’s parents requested that friends, family, and others from the church gather to pray for a miracle of resurrection, the basis for which is modeled by Jesus in the New Testament of the Bible. Bethel Church believes in the accounts of healing and physical resurrection found in the Bible (Matthew 10:8), and that the miracles they portray are possible today.”
(Bethel Church - <https://www.bethel.com/press/olive>)

Rom 8:18 For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.

_____ now, _____ later

8. “When we all fall asleep, where do we go?”

8.1 When you die...

8.2 ‘Sleep’

8.3 ‘Heaven’

Rev 21:1 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth [i.e. a new creation], for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more.² And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven [i.e. the place where God is] from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man.”

8.4 What about now?

Luke 23:42 And [the criminal] said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.”⁴³ And he said to him, “Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise.”

“The dead in Christ are in a better place; but they are not yet in the best place. The better place is with Christ, but the best place is with Christ and his people in their bodies, in the new heavens and the new earth. If I can put it this way, the dead in Christ still hope along with us. They are waiting, like we are, for a better day—for the day of resurrection.”
(Rory Shiner, *Raised Forever*, 112)

9. Response?

9.1 Have an accurate estimation of death

1 Cor 15:54 “Death is swallowed up in victory.” “O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?”⁵⁶ The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.⁵⁷ But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

9.2 Grieve

Rom 15:15 Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.

9.3 ‘Hopetivism’

“Optimists have a hope that is no hope at all. It’s an irrational hope, disconnected from reality. **Pessimists obviously don’t have any hope. That’s the whole point of being a pessimist...** But the Bible calls us to something quite different from either optimism or pessimism. The Bible doesn’t call us to be optimists. We know that sin is real and suffering is real and that we will experience much of both. People, at their core, are not good. We call it total depravity. The world won’t slowly get better onward to utopia. And God never calls us to be irrational. But the Bible also doesn’t call us to be pessimists either. In our culture there’s something cool about being cynical and pessimistic. And it seems that a lot of Christians have followed the culture without thinking about it, and this may be one of our present cultural blind spots. I suspect that people 50 years from now will look back at this generation and wonder why we acted like this and how we didn’t see it as a mindset shaped by our culture rather than a mindset shaped by the Bible. Because the Bible doesn’t encourage us to be pessimists. The Bible calls us to a third way. I call it hopetivism. A life without Jesus is a life without hope. But a life with Jesus is a life filled with hope.”
(Craig Hamilton, *Wisdom in Leadership*, Kindle Locations 2132-2143)

“Hopetivism doesn’t say that everything will always be good or that everything you attempt will always succeed. And hopetivism doesn’t say that you’re never going to face any problems. That would be irrational. Hopetivism allows us to confront the most brutal facts of our current circumstances and still have a sure and certain hope for the future, based on evidence, that we will prevail. Hopetivism looks evil and failure and disappointment and problems and pain square in the face and right in the eyes and says: “You will not win. You do not win. I have seen the future in Jesus and it is resurrection. You will not win. Because my God is bigger and my King is alive. And so I refuse to lose.” Our hope is not based on the shape of our circumstances because if you’re measuring your circumstances then you’re measuring the wrong thing. Our hope is based on the size of our God and on the heartbeat of our King— and our King is alive. Hopetivism is in touch with reality, like pessimism often is, but hopetivism avoids the irrationality of optimism. And it can do this because of who God is and what Jesus has done. In other words, it can do it because of theology.”
(Craig Hamilton, *Wisdom in Leadership*, Kindle Locations 2196-2206)

9.4 Realistic expectations of life

Luke 24:20 The chief priests and our rulers handed [Jesus] over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; ²¹but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel.

“Because they were looking for the wrong kind of redemption, they had totally missed the redemption that had just happened. In fact, Jesus’ death was the redemption of God’s people. He hadn’t redeemed them from Roman rule; it turns out that Jesus had much bigger fish to fry. His death redeemed his people by setting them free from both the penalty and power of sin. You and I walk this road, too. Have you ever been disappointed with God? Have you ever felt that God failed to live up to your expectations? Have you started to wonder whether the day-to-day reality of your life reflects the redeeming work of Jesus? Do you have a little voice in your head and heart saying of Christ: “I had hoped he would... but he didn’t”? If so, then I wonder if your disappointment isn’t a product of having the wrong expectations of what it means for Jesus to redeem you. . . We naturally gravitate toward what Martin Luther called a “theology of glory.” We expect that if Jesus really makes a difference in our lives, if his redemption and salvation is truly present in us, our lives ought to be marked by peace, strength, uninterrupted growth in holiness, and victory. In short, we expect that things will seem more and more glorious all the time. And when things do not turn out in ways that are consistent with our expectations of glory, we find ourselves disillusioned and downcast. . . What do you tend to put in the middle of the sentence: “I had hoped that Jesus would... but he hasn’t”? . . . Let’s be thrilled by the redemption Jesus has brought, not downcast by the redemption he hasn’t. “

(Mike McKinley, *The Resurrection In Your Life*, Kindle Locations 340-376)

Talk 4. Resurrection Changes...

Thursday

PART A: Resurrection changes... authentic living now

1. When are you raised?

Col 3:1 Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. ³For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

Eph 2:4 But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, ⁵made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. ⁶And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, ⁷in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—⁹not by works, so that no one can boast. ¹⁰For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”

Col 3:9 Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices ¹⁰and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator. ¹¹Here there is no Gentile or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all.

Rom 8:28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. ²⁹For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.

John 10:10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

Gal 2:19 For through the law I died to the law so that I might live for God. ²⁰I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

“That the mind itself exists only in the present – in the brain – is obvious. We are of the world – that is our body – and we are in the world, that is our mind... How could one live in the past or in the future? To do so one would mean to no longer be, or to not yet be”
(Andre Comté-Sponville, *The Little Book of Philosophy*, 121)

Phil 3:18 For, as I have often told you before and now tell you again even with tears, many live as enemies of the cross of Christ. ¹⁹Their destiny is destruction, their god is their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. Their mind is set on earthly things. ²⁰But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.

Rev 11:15 The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Messiah, and he will reign for ever and ever.

2. Being truly 'authentic'

"Authenticity' has become the buzzword of the early twenty-first century, right up there with 'self esteem', as if to be authentic is the best thing you can possibly be. You don't have to be loving, kind, generous, compassionate, tolerant or respectful of others: authenticity is the thing!"
(Hugh Mackay, *The Good Life*, 149)

2.1 Deconversion as 'being true to yourself'

"Step 1: Recount negatives of your fundamentalist legalistic past
Step 2: Position yourself as 'the offended party' who bravely fought 'the establishment'
Step 3: Portray your old group as overly 'dogmatic' while you are a 'seeker'
Step 4: Insist your new theology is driven by the Bible and is not a rejection of it
Step 5: Attack the character of your old group and uplift the character of your new group."
(Mark Sayers - *This Cultural Moment* podcast)

UNTHINKABLE → RADICAL → ACCEPTABLE → SENSIBLE → POPULAR → NEW NORMAL

2.2 Being true to Jesus

"We have to look like what we're talking about. And what communicates basically now is our personal authenticity."
(John Stott, *Interview at Sydney University's Annual Conference*, 2002)

2.3 Become a murderer

Col 3:5 Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. ⁶Because of these, the wrath of God is coming. ⁷You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. ⁸But now you must also rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. ⁹Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices ¹⁰and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator.

Rom 6:1 What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? ²By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? ³Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. ⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin—⁷because anyone who has died has been set free from sin.

⁸Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. ¹⁰The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God.

¹¹In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus. ¹²Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires. ¹³Do not offer any part of yourself to sin as an instrument of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer every part of yourself to him as an instrument of righteousness.

Mortification + Vivification

2.4 Become obedient

Rom 6:16 Don't you know that when you offer yourselves to someone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one you obey—whether you are slaves to sin, which leads to death, or to obedience, which leads to righteousness? ¹⁷But thanks be to God that, though you used to be slaves to sin, you have come to obey from your heart the pattern of teaching that has now claimed your allegiance.

Ezek 36:24 I will take you out of the nations; I will gather you from all the countries and bring you back into your own land. ²⁵ I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your impurities and from all your idols. ²⁶ I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷ And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws.

3. What does authentic resurrection living look like?

3.1 Submission

Rom 13:1 Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. ² Consequently, whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves.

Col 3:18 Wives, submit yourselves to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. ¹⁹ Husbands, love your wives and do not be harsh with them. ²⁰ Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord. ²¹ Fathers, do not embitter your children, or they will become discouraged. ²² Slaves, obey your earthly masters in everything; and do it, not only when their eye is on you and to curry their favor, but with sincerity of heart and reverence for the Lord.

3.2 Subversion

1 Cor 15:32 If the dead are not raised, “Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die.” ³³ Do not be misled: “Bad company corrupts good character.” ³⁴ Come back to your senses as you ought, and stop sinning; for there are some who are ignorant of God—I say this to your shame.

“Because of the resurrection, Christianity is, at its heart, a rebels’ religion. The problem with the world is that it’s far too conservative. It might look radical, but it is so deeply, deeply submissive. So horribly, embarrassingly wedded to the ancient regime of sin, death and Satan. It says to Death, “You win, sir. I understand that. And I don’t mean to argue, or to appear insubordinate, but would it be okay if I played for a little first?”

(Rory Shiner, *Raised Forever*, 100)

The subversive power of humility

“For “pride is the beginning of sin.” And what is pride but the craving for undue exaltation?”
(Augustine, *City of God*, XIV.xiii.1)

“Humility is not thinking less of yourself; it is thinking of yourself less. Humility is thinking more of others. Humble people are so focused on serving others, they don’t think of themselves”

(Rick Warren, *The Purpose Driven Life*, 149)

Phil 2:3 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, ⁴ not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. ⁵ In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: ⁶ Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; ⁷ rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. ⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death— even death on a cross! ⁹ Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name”

3.3 Unity

Eph 2:15 [Jesus’] purpose was to create in himself one new humanity out of the two [i.e. Jew + Gentile], thus making peace, ¹⁶ and in one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility. ¹⁷ He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. ¹⁸ For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.

¹⁹ Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God’s people and also members of his household, ²⁰ built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. ²¹ In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. ²² And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

i. unifying centre

ii. internal maintenance

iii. external protection

“One generation... believed the gospel and held as well that there were certain social, economic, and political entailments. The next generation assumed the gospel, but identified with the entailments. The following generation denied the gospel: the “entailments” became everything.”

(DA Carson, *Basics for Believers*, 26-27)

3.4 Sexual holiness

1 Cor 6:13 “Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food”—and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is not meant for sexual immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. ¹⁴And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power. ¹⁵Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! ¹⁶Or do you not know that he who is joined to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For, as it is written, “The two will become one flesh.” ¹⁷But he who is joined to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. ¹⁸Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body. ¹⁹Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, ²⁰for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

PART B: Resurrection changes... the goalposts

4. What if you had nothing to lose?

Heb 2:14 Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, [Jesus] himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery.

“There is nothing special about you, there is nothing special about Polly [Caro’s daughter]. Terrible things can happen and they can happen to anyone. Safety is an illusion. Danger is reality. Perhaps that sounds like a brutal thing to say to a terrified young mother but it was exactly what I needed to hear...I stopped trying to control the uncontrollable. I stopped trying to prepare for all the worst things I could imagine. I learnt a fundamental truth – that while I can attempt to minimise danger, I can’t make it go away.

(Jane Caro, *As a Young Mother These Words Saved Me*, SMH 30/04/20)

Phil 1:20 I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient courage so that now as always Christ will be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death. ²¹For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. ²²If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labor for me. Yet what shall I choose? I do not know! ²³I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far; ²⁴but it is more necessary for you that I remain in the body. ²⁵Convinced of this, I know that I will remain, and I will continue with all of you for your progress and joy in the faith

5. Changing the goalposts for marriage

Matt 22:28 “Now then, at the resurrection, whose wife will she be of the seven, since all of them were married to her?”

²⁹Jesus replied, “You are in error because you do not know the Scriptures or the power of God.

³⁰At the resurrection people will neither marry nor be given in marriage; they will be like the angels in heaven.”

1 Cor 7:8 Now to the unmarried and the widows I say: It is good for them to stay unmarried, as I do. ⁹But if they cannot control themselves, they should marry, for it is better to marry than to burn with passion.

1 Cor 7:25 Now about virgins: I have no command from the Lord, but I give a judgment as one who by the Lord's mercy is trustworthy.²⁶ Because of the present crisis, I think that it is good for a man to remain as he is.²⁷ Are you pledged to a woman? Do not seek to be released. Are you free from such a commitment? Do not look for a wife.²⁸ But if you do marry, you have not sinned; and if a virgin marries, she has not sinned. But those who marry will face many troubles in this life, and I want to spare you this.

²⁹What I mean, brothers and sisters, is that the time is short. From now on those who have wives should live as if they do not; ³⁰those who mourn, as if they did not; those who are happy, as if they were not; those who buy something, as if it were not theirs to keep; ³¹those who use the things of the world, as if not engrossed in them. For this world in its present form is passing away.

³²I would like you to be free from concern. An unmarried man is concerned about the Lord's affairs—how he can please the Lord.³³ But a married man is concerned about the affairs of this world—how he can please his wife—³⁴and his interests are divided. An unmarried woman or virgin is concerned about the Lord's affairs: Her aim is to be devoted to the Lord in both body and spirit. But a married woman is concerned about the affairs of this world—how she can please her husband.³⁵ I am saying this for your own good, not to restrict you, but that you may live in a right way in undivided devotion to the Lord.

Eph 5:31 “For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.”³² This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church.

5.1 Should you marry?

5.2 Who should you marry?

6. Changing the goalposts for the environment

“Nature is healing, we are the virus”?

Rom 8:19 For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed.²⁰ For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God.

7. Changing the goalposts for work

Gen 2:15 The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it.

John 5:17 My Father is always at his work to this very day, and I too am working.

Gen 3:16 To the woman he said, “I will make your pains in childbearing very severe; with painful labor you will give birth to children. Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you.”

¹⁷To Adam he said, “Because you listened to your wife and ate fruit from the tree about which I commanded you, ‘You must not eat from it,’ “Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat food from it all the days of your life.¹⁸ It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field.¹⁹ By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return.”

Ecc 2:4 I undertook great projects: I built houses for myself and planted vineyards.⁵ I made gardens and parks and planted all kinds of fruit trees in them.⁶ I made reservoirs to water groves of flourishing trees.⁷ I bought male and female slaves and had other slaves who were born in my house. I also owned more herds and flocks than anyone in Jerusalem before me.⁸ I amassed silver and gold for myself, and the treasure of kings and provinces. I acquired male and female singers, and a harem as well—the delights of a man's heart.⁹ I became greater by far than anyone in Jerusalem before me. In all this my wisdom stayed with me.

¹⁰I denied myself nothing my eyes desired; I refused my heart no pleasure. My heart took delight in all my labor, and this was the reward for all my toil. ¹¹Yet when I surveyed all that my hands had done and what I had toiled to achieve, everything was meaningless, a chasing after the wind; nothing was gained under the sun.

“We have a responsibility to work, a responsibility within work and a responsibility beyond work.”
(William Taylor, *Revolutionary Work*, 11)

7.1 A responsibility to work

2 Thess 3:6 In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, we command you, brothers and sisters, to keep away from every believer who is idle and disruptive and does not live according to the teaching you received from us. ⁷For you yourselves know how you ought to follow our example. We were not idle when we were with you, ⁸nor did we eat anyone’s food without paying for it. On the contrary, we worked night and day, laboring and toiling so that we would not be a burden to any of you. ⁹We did this, not because we do not have the right to such help, but in order to offer ourselves as a model for you to imitate. ¹⁰For even when we were with you, we gave you this rule: “The one who is unwilling to work shall not eat.”

¹¹We hear that some among you are idle and disruptive. They are not busy; they are busybodies. ¹²Such people we command and urge in the Lord Jesus Christ to settle down and earn the food they eat. ¹³And as for you, brothers and sisters, never tire of doing what is good.

7.2 A responsibility within work

Col 3:22 Slaves, obey your earthly masters in everything; and do it, not only when their eye is on you and to curry their favor, but with sincerity of heart and reverence for the Lord. ²³Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, ²⁴since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.

Eph 4:28 Anyone who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with their own hands, that they may have something to share with those in need.

7.3 A responsibility beyond work

1 Tim 6:8 But godliness with contentment is great gain. ⁷For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. ⁸But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. ⁹Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

7.4 Does our work endure into the new creation?

1 Cor 15:35 But someone will ask, “How are the dead raised? With what kind of body will they come?” ³⁶How foolish! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. ³⁷When you sow, you do not plant the body that will be, but just a seed, perhaps of wheat or of something else.

7.5 Work for the Lord vs Work of the Lord

1 Cor 15:58 Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

So what are you going to do with your life?

Talk 5. Resurrection Changes...

Friday

PART A: Proclaiming the Resurrection...

1. The arthouse film ending

Mark 16:1 When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might go to anoint Jesus' body.² Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they were on their way to the tomb³ and they asked each other, "Who will roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb?"

⁴ But when they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away.

⁵ As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed.

⁶ "Don't be alarmed," he said. "You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him.⁷ But go, tell his disciples and Peter, 'He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.'"

⁸ Trembling and bewildered, the women went out and fled from the tomb. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid.

1.1 Two unheeded commands

1.2 What will you do in response to Jesus' resurrection?

2. What's required in a world under the shadow of death (COVID-19)?

2.1 A new object of worship

Rev 1:17 When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. Then he placed his right hand on me and said: "Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last.¹⁸ I am the Living One; I was dead, and now look, I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades.

2.2 A new realisation of judgment

Acts 17:29 Therefore since we are God's offspring, we should not think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone—an image made by human design and skill.³⁰ In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent.³¹ For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to everyone by raising him from the dead."

³² When they heard about the resurrection of the dead, some of them sneered, but others said, "We want to hear you again on this subject."³³ At that, Paul left the Council.³⁴ Some of the people became followers of Paul and believed. Among them was Dionysius, a member of the Areopagus, also a woman named Damaris, and a number of others.

2.3 A new resurrection from the dead

Eph 2:1 As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins,² in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient.³ All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath.⁴ But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy,⁵ made us alive with Christ

2.4 A new mindset

Acts 2:36 “Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah.”

³⁷When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?”

³⁸Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.”

2.5 A new creation

2 Cor 5:14 For Christ’s love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. ¹⁵And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.

¹⁶So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. ¹⁷Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

2.6 A new mission

Matt 28:16 Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. ¹⁷When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. ¹⁸Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

2.7 A new ability

Phil 3:7 But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith. ¹⁰I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead.

3. Don’t lose heart!

2 Cor 4:1 Therefore, since through God’s mercy we have this ministry, we do not lose heart.

²Rather, we have renounced secret and shameful ways; we do not use deception, nor do we distort the word of God. On the contrary, by setting forth the truth plainly we commend ourselves to everyone’s conscience in the sight of God. ³And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵For what we preach is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus’ sake. ⁶For God, who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of God’s glory displayed in the face of Christ.

⁷But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us. ⁸We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; ⁹persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed. ¹⁰We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body. ¹¹For we who are alive are always being given over to death for Jesus’ sake, so that his life may also be revealed in our mortal body. ¹²So then, death is at work in us, but life is at work in you.

¹³It is written: “I believed; therefore I have spoken.” Since we have that same spirit of faith, we also believe and therefore speak, ¹⁴because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus from the dead will also raise us with Jesus and present us with you to himself. ¹⁵All this is for your benefit, so that the grace that is reaching more and more people may cause thanksgiving to overflow to the glory of God.

¹⁶Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. ¹⁷For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. ¹⁸So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

^{5:1} For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an

eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands.² Meanwhile we groan, longing to be clothed instead with our heavenly dwelling,³ because when we are clothed, we will not be found naked.⁴ For while we are in this tent, we groan and are burdened, because we do not wish to be unclothed but to be clothed instead with our heavenly dwelling, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life.⁵ Now the one who has fashioned us for this very purpose is God, who has given us the Spirit as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.

⁶ Therefore we are always confident and know that as long as we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord.⁷ For we live by faith, not by sight.⁸ We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord.⁹ So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it.¹⁰ For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.

4. Implications for campus:

PART B: ...to the Nations!

5. 'It is necessary'

Luke 24:44 He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms."

⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. ⁴⁶ He told them, "This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day,⁴⁷ and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

Acts 1:1 In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach² until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen.³ After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God.⁴ On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about.⁵ For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

⁶ Then they gathered around him and asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?"

⁷ He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority.⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Rom 1:1 Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God—² the gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures³ regarding his Son, who as to his earthly life was a descendant of David,⁴ and who through the Spirit of holiness was appointed the Son of God in power by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord.⁵ Through him we received grace and apostleship to call all the Gentiles to the obedience that comes from faith for his name's sake.

6. Implications:

6.1 Broaden your horizons

the 'LRLR'

6.2 Pray persistently

6.3 Send sacrificially

6.4 Go gladly

6.5 Start now – FOCUS

Recommended Reading

The Essentials

The New Bible Commentary and New Bible Dictionary (IVP: Leicester)

- the standard one-volume work which covers every book and theological term in the bible!

G Bray, *God is Love: A Biblical and Systematic Theology* (Wheaton: Crossway, 2012)

- excellent one-volume work from a thoroughly reformed and evangelical perspective. Easy to read (believe it or not!)

G Goldsworthy, *According to Plan: The Unfolding Revelation of God in the Bible* (Leicester: IVP, 1991)

- short but profound book proposing an integrating theme throughout the bible

V Roberts, *God's Big Picture: Tracing the Storyline of the Bible* (Nottingham, IVP, 2009)

- simple, easy-to-read, essential for any Christian serious about reading any bit of the bible in proper context

J I Packer, *Knowing God* (London: Hodder and Stoughton, 1973, repr. 1975-91)

- John Stott was one of the earliest reviewers and was frustrated in his attempts to finish the book because it kept moving him to prayer: "The truth he handles fires the heart. At least, it fired mine, and compelled me to turn aside to worship and to pray"

Paul Miller, *A Praying Life: Connecting with God in a Distracting World* (Col Springs: Navpress, 2009)

- outstanding: will make you want to pray, and help you actually pray!

John Stott, *The Cross of Christ* (Leicester: IVP, 1986)

- perhaps the single most influential book amongst Western evangelicals in the last 30 years. Section on the implications of the atonement are worth the price of the book!

T Keller, *The Reason for God* (London: Hodder & Stoughton, 2008)

- one of the best books on apologetics; written by a pastor (not just a theoretician)

L Brown, *Shining like stars: the power of the gospel in the world's universities* (Nottingham: IVP, 2006)

- the best book for university students to inspire you not to waste your life

Sam Green, *Where to start with Islam* (Matthias Media, 2019)

- written by AFES staffworker Sam green who is the national Muslim engagement specialist for ES groups around the country. He brings his wealth of knowledge and experience to bear in a clear, practical and well thought out book to encourage you to love your Muslim neighbours and point them to Jesus!

Rico Tice, *Honest Evangelism: How to talk about Jesus even when it's tough* (The Good Book Company, 2015)

- Rico shows us how our world is both hostile towards and hungry for the gospel. BY helping us understand the barriers and our role to play, he encourages us to share our faith in simple and clear ways.

Paul Grimmond, *Suffering Well* (Matthias Media, 2011)

- Former ES staffworker from UNSW Sydney looks at the predictable surprise of Christian suffering. In this book Paul combines deep pastoral wisdom with rigorous theology to show us how God can use our suffering for good. Plus the book has a little man walking on each page so that if you flick the book pages quickly he starts to walk!

Christopher Ash, *Married for God* (IVP, 2007)

- One of the most refreshing explorations of what God's design and vision for marriage is. Ash lifts our eyes beyond our own happiness to see God's bigger plans and purposes for marriage in light of the gospel. A great book for developing a mature theology of marriage.

Topic Specific

Rory Shiner, *Raised Forever: Jesus' resurrection and ours* (Matthias Media, 2014)

- this would be the #1 recommendation for MYCers to read. Rory is a former AFES graduate (and NTE speaker) who pastors a church in Perth. He has clearly and comprehensively summarised what we're covering in the main talks (in a very short and entertaining book)

Sam Allberry, *Lifted: Experiencing the Resurrection Life* (IVP, 2010)

- helpful book that draws out the implications of the resurrection on our everyday life as Christians. He explores the 4 mains topics of: Assurance, transformation, Hope and Mission. It doesn't cover as much content as other books but what it does cover it digs deeply into.

John Dickson, *The Life of Jesus: Who he is and why he matters* (Zondervan, 2010)

- an excellent book which covers the historical evidence for Jesus and his death and resurrection. John is an Australian pastor with a PhD in Ancient History who lectures on the 'historical Jesus' at Sydney University. He works for the Centre of Public Christianity and has produced a number of television documentaries outlining the historicity of the Bible.

Steven Mathewson, *Risen: 50 reasons why the resurrection changed everything* (Baker, 2013)

- this book goes from breadth over depth but might show you some surprising ways the resurrection impacts your life. Worth reading to 'expand' your horizons!

Michael McKinley, *The Resurrection in Your Life: How the living Christ changes your world* (The Good Book Company, 2015)

- a book with some helpful pastoral explorations of how we live in light of the resurrection as the author traces through the narrative of the resurrection and ascension of the risen Jesus.

William Taylor, *Revolutionary Work: What's the point of the 9 to 5?* (10 Publishing, 2016)

- a short but thorough book on the theology of work and how the resurrection changes the way we work and the goalposts for our work. A must read before you graduate!

Nancy Guthrie, *What grieving people wish you knew about what really helps (and what really hurts)* (Crossway, 2016)

- a practical book to help us be aware of how we can best serve others in their grief (and avoid unintentionally worsening their pain). Nancy personally experienced the pain of losing 2 children and brings theology to bear on this important topic.

Topic-specific articles

Australian Fellowship of Evangelical Students, "SALT Magazine Autumn 2009: Resurrection" magazine downloadable from https://www.afes.org.au/sites/default/files/resource/salt_-_resurrection_2009.pdf

-21 short articles written by ES staffworkers around Australia on the topic of "Resurrection"

8th August 2020 | 6:30pm

JESUS WEEK

QUIZ NIGHT

QUIZ NIGHT

QUIZ NIGHT

WHEN?

Saturday, August 8th, 6:30pm

WHERE?

Zoom - meet in teams at homes

ZOOM LINK?

Once you register your team, the link will be sent to you

COST?

Free! However donations are encouraged

ANTHROPOLOGY:
WHO AM I?
ANTHROPOLOGY:
WHO AM I?



MYC 2021

2. Debriefing (30 mins)

1. Look back over your notes from Talk 1.

What's been confusing?

What's been challenging?

What's been comforting?

3. Studying (30 mins)

Each morning, we will be studying 1 Corinthians 15. The way in which we are going to do this is by reading and working through it together in our review groups using the text we have provided. As you can see, the verse numbers, paragraphs and headings which normally appear in your Bibles (yet are not in the original versions) have been removed.

The reason we have arranged it like this is in order to help us work out what the text is about for ourselves. It is hard work because it causes us to read the Bible with a depth and thoughtfulness far greater than that with which we normally read it, but it does have great benefits.

1. Pray

2. Read through 1 Corinthians 15 using the text provided. As you read through it:

- a. Underline any words you don't understand
- b. Circle any words or ideas which are repeated
- c. Put a question mark next to anything you don't understand or find surprising

3. Look over the text again and:

- a. Mark paragraphs where you think there is a natural break in the argument
- b. Write headings for each section where it seems appropriate

4. What are the main ideas which arise in 1 Corinthians chapter 15?

4. Praying (15 mins)

As MYC begins, spend some time praying for each other in light of this passage.

Review Group Two

Tuesday

1. Debriefing (30 mins)

Look back over your notes from the last 24 hours

What's been confusing?

What's been challenging?

What's been comforting?

2. Studying (45 mins)

1. Pray

2. Re-read through 1 Corinthians 15 using the text provided.

3. From this chapter, what can you discover about:

a. the author

b. the recipients of the letter

c. the relationship between the author and the recipients

d. any other people mentioned. How do they relate to the author and readers?

e. the reason for writing this chapter?

3. Praying (15 mins)

In pairs that God will help you to share the evidence for Jesus' resurrection with others on campus.

Review Group Three

Wednesday

1. Debriefing (30 mins)

1. Look back over your notes from the last 24 hours

What's been confusing?

What's been challenging?

What's been comforting?

2. Studying (45 mins)

1. Pray

2. Re-read through 1 Corinthians 15 using the text provided.

3. Highlight the words which connect ideas. These include words such as: because, for, therefore, since, now, but, etc.

4. Draw a flowchart of the argument of 1 Corinthians 15 on the butcher's paper provided and record your summary of it here below:

5. Write a 2 sentence summary of 1 Corinthians 15.

Praying (15 mins)

In guys/girls groups, spend time praying for perseverance in suffering

Review Group Four

Thursday

1. Debriefing (30 mins)

1. Look back over your notes from the last 24 hours

What's been confusing?

What's been challenging?

What's been comforting?

2. Studying (45 mins)

1. Pray

2. Re-read through 1 Corinthians 15 using the text provided.

3. Look back at your answer to Q4 of Monday's Review group. List again the ideas and themes this part of the letter deals with.

4. How do these issues and themes relate to one another?

5. Are there any unifying ideas or themes?

6. What have you learnt about God from this chapter?

7. What have you learnt about Jesus from this chapter?

8. What have you learnt about humanity + resurrection from this chapter?

3. Praying (15 mins)

In pairs, pray for each other to live authentic resurrection-shaped lives on campus.

Review Group Five

Friday

1. Debriefing (20 mins)

1. Look back over your notes from the last 24 hours

What's been confusing?

What's been challenging?

What's been comforting?

2. Praying (10 mins)

Revisit your Review group notes over the past week, and pray with & for each other in light of what you have been challenged by this week from 1 Corinthians 15

Global Focus

Act Now!

How often are we encouraged and moved when we hear about other God's mission in other countries yet quickly move on? This year at MYC we want to give everyone the opportunity to respond to the Global Mission segments in some practical ways.

Come to the back of the auditorium to engage in any of the following activities:



Pray for the entire world!

Our goal throughout the conference is to pray for the entire world! That's 195 countries in 5 days – if everyone prayed for 2 countries, we'd pray for entire world (and a third of it twice!!) You'll even get to use one of those scratch off Maps!



Write to persecuted Christians or to other IFES campus groups

Writing letters is a really practical way to encourage another Christians around the globe as they follow Jesus. If you don't know what to write, no need to panic - there will be plenty of examples to guide you through the process!



Reflect and pray for the gospel to reach the world

Prayer is the best way we can be involved in sharing and living out the gospel! Reflect on some bible verses and resources, take a prayer card, or pray for missionaries and persecuted Christians. Take this opportunity to consider your own heart for global mission and how you can be supporting what God is doing in the world!

Workshop Overviews

1. Finding your place in God's story **compulsory if you are first time at MYC**

Naomi Grosvenor

2 Testaments, 66 Books, 1189 chapters written by around 40 authors in many different genres. A worldwide bestseller printed in all sorts of sizes, bindings and languages. The Bible is an extraordinary book and crucial to our faith! It is also A LOT to get your head around. Come along to this seminar to begin to piece together the big picture of the Bible and how it all fits together to point us to the salvation God gives us in Jesus.

2. FOCUS on Jesus: Making Sense of the Whole Bible [FOCUS friendly]

David Purton

This is a special seminar for FOCUS students whose first language isn't English. Do you know about Jesus, but find the rest of the Bible confusing? Do you ever find the Old Testament difficult to understand? Join us as we go through the whole Bible together. We'll see how the Bible tells one story. And we'll see how every part points to Jesus.

3. Prayer

Emily Just

Most of us, most of the time get prayer is a gift from God, but it can often feel hard and just another item on the to do list. In this workshop we will explore and grow in our understanding of what the Bible has to say about this amazing gift and chat through some practical tips.

4. Is it too late now to say sorry?

Hendre Jansen van Vuuren

Repentance is a weird thing in a world that tells us to live without regrets. Together we will look at what repentance actually is, what a practice of repentance can look like, and how we can be sure our repentance was successful.

5. Love and War

Reuben Salagaras

Thinking Christianly about war, love, justice and distant neighbours.

6. Answering tough questions well

Mike Russell

This workshop provides some principles for answering tough questions, as well as sample answers to some commonly asked questions about Christianity.

7. Everything you want to know about dating according to Uncle Geoff (but were too afraid to ask)

Geoff Lin

The title speaks for itself! For those who want to date, are dating, have kissed dating goodbye, or know someone who is dating. Awkward conversations guaranteed (but it'll be better than asking your parents).

8. Daily Bible Reading for Shirkers and Slackers

Laura Maddock

We've all heard that Daily Bible Reading is a good thing to do. But why is it good? And what can we do about difficulties we have with our regularity or even the quality of this time that we spend with God? This workshop will examine these questions and explore this aspect of our personal relationship with God.

Workshop locations

Room	Capacity	Tuesday	Thursday
Auditorium	Unlimited	Finding your place	Finding your place
Ground level: Sparks	25	Tough Questions	Dating
Ground level: IKIDS	25	Dating	Bible reading
Ground level: Parents	12	War	Prayer
Upstairs: large	15	Bible reading	Repentance
Upstairs: small	10	FOCUS on Jesus	



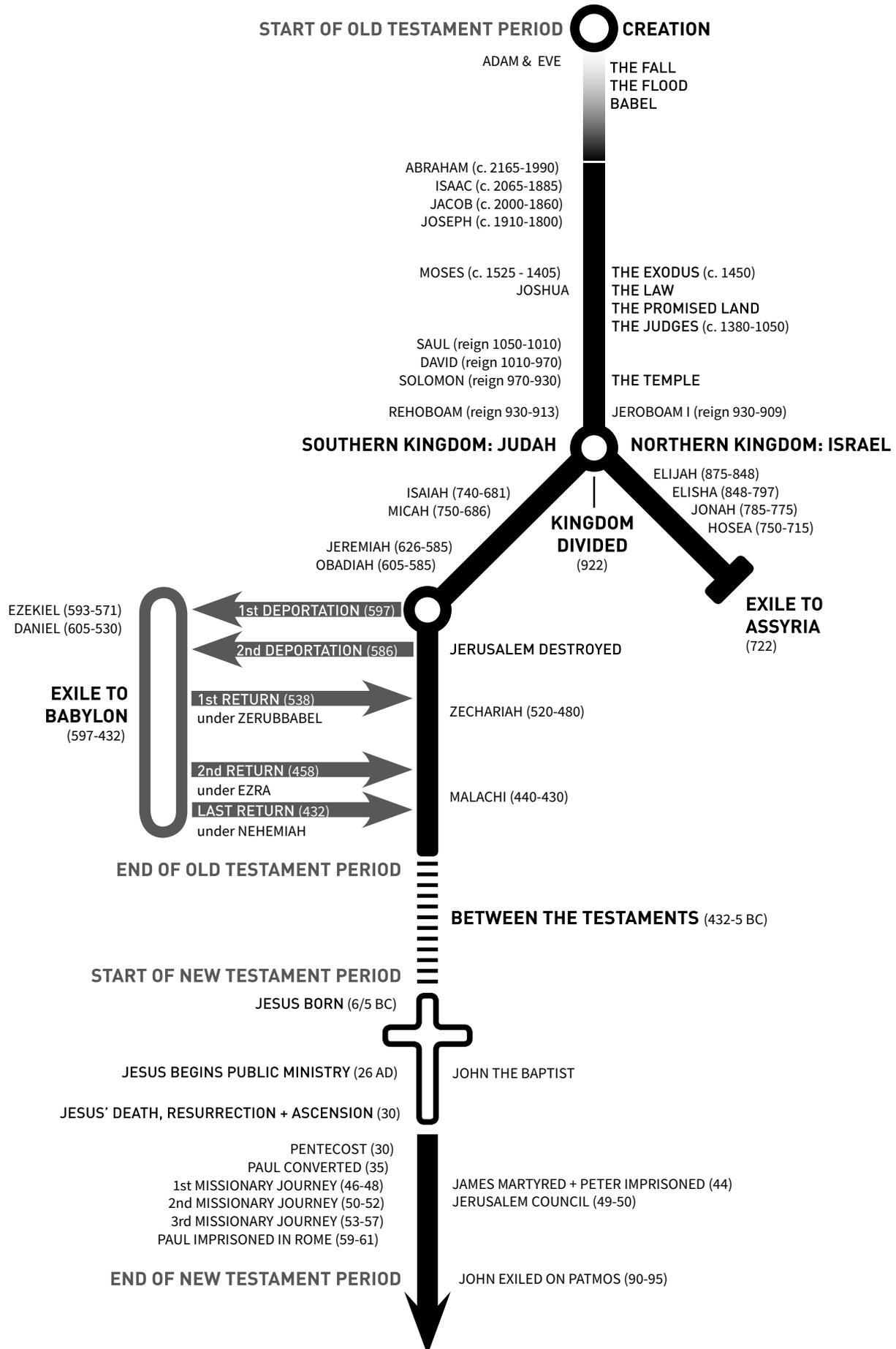
FOCUS is a group within ES for international students. ES students are welcome at FOCUS. You can invite your international friends along, meet others from around the world, and share the gospel.

When: Fridays during semester, 5:30–9pm

Where: Horace Lamb 422 (Just off L4, Hub Central, Adelaide Uni)

www.focusadelaide.org.au

BIBLICAL TIMELINE



MYC Playlist

Song	Arrangement
Saved my soul	CityAlight
Yet not I but Through Christ in Me	CityAlight
Be Thou My Vision	Citizens
All Glory Be to Christ	Kings (MHM)
It is Well With My Soul	Hillsong Worship
Made Alive	Citizens
In Tenderness	Citizens
Father you are all we need	Citizens
Living Hope	Phil Wickham
Do it Again	Elevation Worship
Take my Life	Garage Hymnal

Extra notes/blank

Extra notes/blank

Extra notes/blank

Extra notes/blank

MYC 2020

Time of Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9:00am					
9:30am		Prayer Meeting (Optional)	Prayer Meeting (Optional)	Prayer Meeting (Optional)	Prayer Meeting (Optional)
10:00am	Talk 1	Talk 2	Talk 3	Talk 4	Talk 5
10:30am					
11:00am					
11:45am	Morning Tea	Morning Tea	Morning Tea	Morning Tea	Morning Tea
12:00pm					
12:30pm	Review Groups	Review Groups	Review Groups	Review Groups	Review Groups
1:00pm					
1:30pm	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
2:00pm					
2:30pm	Frisbee Tournament	Workshops	Global Focus Session	Workshops	Wrap-up
3:00pm					
3:30pm					
4:00pm	Free Time / Afternoon Tea				
4:30pm	Optional Fellowship Activities	Jesus Week Session	Jesus Week Session	Q&A Session	
5:00pm					
5:30pm					
6:00pm	Optional Fellowship Activities	Optional Fellowship Activities	Optional Fellowship Activities	Optional Fellowship Activities	
6:30pm					
7:00pm					