

STUDY GUIDE

THE AFTERLIFE 4.12.15

[Instructions for LifeGroup leaders]

As you prepare to take your LifeGroup through this study, remember that this guide is provided in the hopes that you will customize it based on the insights you have of your group. You can dig deeper by studying in advance for additional references, study helps and applications or you can trim it down and focus on one section that you feel your group needs to discuss and grow in. It's your study "guide". Modify as much as you want and have fun with it!

[setup]

When was a time that you were realized or were profoundly reminded that we are more than just a body?

[digging deeper]

This last weekend as we kicked off our series on the afterlife, the topic of the soul was addressed first. Review Luke 16: 19-31. Some have say Jesus is telling a true story and some say He is telling a parable. Either way, Jesus is speaking of things that are realities. What are some of the realities that you observe in these passage? What questions are also raised by this passage?

What specific insights do you gain from this passage on the soul?

Although there it is still a mystery as to when our souls become united to our body, we know that our souls originate from God. Read. Gen. 2:7 and elaborate on the significance of that verse and its implication of regarding the value of our soul

How is seeing ourselves as a soul that has a body more impacting and valuable than a body with a soul? How can this realization help us live our life differently?

Read each of the following verses (divide them between smaller groups if in a LifeGroup) and give an insight for each one regarding the soul.

Gen. 2:7 _____

Gen. 35:18 _____

Eccl. 12:7 _____

1 Kings 17:21 _____

James 2:26 _____

Matt. 10:28 _____

Matt. 16:26 _____

Luke 12:20 _____

Luke 23:46 _____

John 19:30 _____

Rom. 8:16 _____

1 Cor. 15:50

Rev. 6:9

Rev. 20:4

[live it out]

What can you tangibly and practically do to help remind you that the people around you in life are souls?

How can this especially help with difficult people and how can you show love toward a difficult soul this week that doesn't know Christ in the hope that they come to Christ?

As souls, our urgency of our eternal destination is of utmost importance. Do you know for certain that you, as a soul, will spend eternity in heaven? What about the souls of your family, friends, neighbors, etc? As you continue to pray for those who do not know Christ, who are you praying for right now and planning on sharing the good news of Jesus with? (you can include what you have learned about the reality of the soul in your 3 circles Gospel conversation as part of God's design and our restoration back to God)

Here is a helpful link for additional study or information.

<http://www.gotquestions.org/human-soul.html> (see additional links at this page)