



# STUDY GUIDE

## AFTERLIFE

5.3.2015

### [set up]

Do you have any stories related to seeing God work in the lives of those you are praying for or sharing the Gospel with who do not know the Lord?

If you were at the service last weekend, what was one aspect that really impacted you?

### [digging deeper]

This last weekend we wrapped up our series on the afterlife. What is one question regarding the afterlife that you feel was answered during this series? Do you have a Bible reference that helped you understand?

What is one question that still lingers for you? Have you explored/studied the Bible attempting to get an answer to that question?

Below are the take home/big ideas from each of the weeks. How do they help you understand, remember and *apply* what you learned each week?

- Reality of the soul - "Don't let the afterlife be an afterthought."
- Reality of heaven - "Heaven is a home for the future and hope for the present."
- Reality of hell - "God's justice exists not despite His love but because of His love."

One verse that is a common thread through all the messages in this series is Hebrews 9:27. Look it up and share all the implications and applications that come from just that one verse. What views of the afterlife does this one verse also refute?

In Luke 8:52, 1 Corinthians 15:6 and Ecclesiastes 9:5,6 those who died are referred to as "sleeping". What are the ways we can interpret these passages and those like them?

This last weekend the topics touched on by the Q&A panel were:

- Where do we go right after death?
- What kind of interaction with loved ones do we have after death?
- What about people who commit suicide?
- What happens in the case of children or mentally impaired dying?
- What do we know about the resurrection body?

## **[digging deeper -- continued]**

These were some of the scriptures mentioned during the weekend: Pick a topic or two and study it together and read some of the additional verses to help understand.

2 Corinthians 5:6-9

Luke 16:22

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

Ephesians 2:8,9

2 Samuel 12:23

Philemon 3:20-21

1 Corinthians 15:42-44

2 Corinthians 5:6-9

Revelation 6:10

1 Corinthians 2:9

1 Corinthians 13:12

Revelation 21

## **[living it out]**

In light of eternity and the big ideas above, will you continue to pray that God will stir in you a greater burden for those who do not know Him? Will you continue to pray for boldness to share the good news of forgiveness, new life and eternal life through Jesus?

What one person will you commit to pray for and engage in spiritual conversation this week? A suggested conversation starter could be something like this, "This last month at our church we talked about the afterlife so that has been on my mind lately. Would you mind if I asked you what your thoughts or beliefs are on the afterlife (what happens when we die)? Be prepared to listen well and not jump to trying to "correct" anything they say. You could ask permission to share some of what you have learned. You can even use that time to share the gospel using the 3 circles tool (click here if you need to learn or refresh it - <http://www.cvconline.org/3-circles/>)

Who is someone that you can share a link to one (or a few) of the messages in this series that you can send in the next day or two?

<http://www.cvconline.org/message/the-afterlife-week-1/>

Don't forget to share your stories with us at the New Life 10|24 link!

<http://www.cvconline.org/newlife1024/>

## **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

### **Books:**

"Heaven" by Randy Alcorn

"Systematic Theology" by Wayne Grudem (Chapters 41, 42, 56, 57)

### **Websites:**

Got Questions? afterlife site -

[http://www.gotquestions.org/search.php?zoom\\_query=afterlife&search.x=0&search.y=0](http://www.gotquestions.org/search.php?zoom_query=afterlife&search.x=0&search.y=0)

Randy Alcorn site - <http://www.epm.org/resources/category/heaven/>

Gary Habermas site - [http://www.garyhabermas.com/qa/qa\\_index.htm](http://www.garyhabermas.com/qa/qa_index.htm)

Desiring God link - <http://www.desiringgod.org/articles/what-happens-at-death>