SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Week of April 3 & 4, 2021

Please use these questions to stay connected as a church to meditate on the same sermon preached from God's Word this week. May this be a fruitful time for the building up of our church and for the spread of the gospel.

Sermon Text

1 Corinthians 15:35-45

35 But someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?" 36 You foolish person! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. 37 And what you sow is not the body that is to be, but a bare kernel, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. 38 But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body. 39 For not all flesh is the same, but there is one kind for humans, another for animals, another for birds, and another for fish. 40 There are heavenly bodies and earthly bodies, but the glory of the heavenly is of one kind, and the glory of the earthly is of another. 41 There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for star differs from star in glory. 42 So is it with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable. 43 It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness; it is raised in power. 44 It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body. 45 Thus it is written, "The first man Adam became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit.

If you were not able to listen to this week's sermon, then please refer to this link to listen prior to answering these questions, http://hawaiikaichurch.org/sermononline

Summary

On this Resurrection Sunday, our passage from 1 Corinthians 15 addresses the skeptic who questions whether the dead can be raised back to life. Paul provides the answer to this question by using an analogy of a seed that must be buried in the ground and die, before it is raised back to new life. This is the

design of an all powerful God who can creatively do anything even if human skeptics cannot understand how. For Paul, the question is not if a person can be raised again to life, but rather what form will that life take? In our passage today, Paul describes the new life Christians will experience after the resurrection which should encourage all believers to live our earthly "seed life" in preparation for the true life that is to come.

Discussion Questions

1. The skeptic bases his unbelief on the premise that "if I can't understand it, then, it can't be possible, it can't be real." Explain how the skeptic's mindset is the epitome of pride and arrogance.

2. Paul does not describe our future resurrected bodies in great detail, but he does say our new bodies will be imperishable, raised in glory, raised in power, and raised as a spiritual body. Describe what you think this means. Try to cite examples in Scripture in your explanation.

3. Paul also describes our earthly bodies as perishable, sown in dishonor, sown in weakness, and sown as a natural body. As earthly beings who are constantly striving to be beautiful, powerful, special, and important, why is it important for believers to see our earthly bodies as Paul describes them in this passage?

4. In our sermon we heard that our life on earth is like the seed in Paul's analogy. That seed was never meant to be the end goal. The seed must be buried in the ground and die before it brings forth the plant - which is actually the true fully realized form of life of the seed. Based on this analogy, how should we be living during our "seed time" on earth?