**“VICTORY OVER DEATH!”**

**1 Corinthians 15:45-58**

***Sermon Review***

*What was the Main Point of the Sermon from Sunday?*

*What part of the Sermon did you find to be the most beneficial?*

***SMALL GROUP LESSON***

1. What feelings have you experienced when a friend or relative passed away?
2. How should Christians regard death?

**1 Corinthians 15:45–58 (NLT)**

45The Scriptures tell us, “The first man, Adam, became a living person.” But the last Adam—that is, Christ—is a life-giving Spirit.

46What comes first is the natural body, then the spiritual body comes later.

47Adam, the first man, was made from the dust of the earth, while Christ, the second man, came from heaven.

48Earthly people are like the earthly man, and heavenly people are like the heavenly man.

49Just as we are now like the earthly man, we will someday be like the heavenly man.

50What I am saying, dear brothers and sisters, is that our physical bodies cannot inherit the Kingdom of God. These dying bodies cannot inherit what will last forever.

51But let me reveal to you a wonderful secret. We will not all die, but we will all be transformed!

52It will happen in a moment, in the blink of an eye, when the last trumpet is blown. For when the trumpet sounds, those who have died will be raised to live forever. And we who are living will also be transformed.

53For our dying bodies must be transformed into bodies that will never die; our mortal bodies must be transformed into immortal bodies.

54Then, when our dying bodies have been transformed into bodies that will never die, this Scripture will be fulfilled: “Death is swallowed up in victory.

55O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?”

56For sin is the sting that results in death, and the law gives sin its power.

57But thank God! He gives us victory over sin and death through our Lord Jesus Christ. 58So, my dear brothers and sisters, be strong and immovable. Always work enthusiastically for the Lord, for you know that nothing you do for the Lord is ever useless.

***EXPLORE***

1. Why can’t flesh and blood inherit the kingdom of God? (15:50)
2. What mystery did Paul reveal? (15:51)
3. Why must all physical bodies be changed, even those that have not died? (15:50, 53)
4. What will happen after the dead are resurrected? (15:54–55)
5. How has God given Christians the victory over death? (15:56–57)
6. What difference does it make that we will be resurrected? (15:58)

***APPLY***

1. How could this passage encourage a person who has lost a loved one who was a believer?
2. How should we regard the future?
3. What difference does it make that death has been defeated by Christ?
4. How can a Christian grieve for someone’s death while still holding on to the hope of resurrection?
5. How should Christ’s resurrection and the hope of your own bodily transformation affect your priorities?
6. What encouragement can we take from the fact that the work we do for the Lord is not in vain?

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