

STUDY GUIDE: “The Foolishness of the Resurrection”

Discussion Starters

1. When did you first hear about the resurrection of Jesus?
2. Did it make sense to you then?

Study

To complete the next section of the study guide, you will need to use a Bible Dictionary. Remember, the words listed below are from the NASB, but the word you are trying to define is the Greek or Hebrew word translated by the NASB—NOT the English word. If you have any questions about how to use these tools, contact your group leader or one of the pastoral staff.

3. In preparation for this study, read 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 and 1 Corinthians 15:35-38; 42-44 in the NASB and one other translation (avoid using a paraphrase).
4. Define the following words or terms. Note for each of them how understanding the meaning and background of that word better helped you understand this passage. Choose one of these to discuss with your small group.

--“word” (1 Corinthians 1:18)—

--“foolishness” (1 Corinthians 1:18)—

--“message preached” (1 Corinthians 1:21)—

--“signs” (1 Corinthians 1:22)—

--“preach” (1 Corinthians 1:23)—

--“own” (1 Corinthians 15:38)—

5. What was a scribe? (1 Corinthians 1:20)

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6. What is the “wisdom of the world”? (1 Corinthians 1:20) Give an example from today.

7. How has God made the wisdom of the world into foolishness?

8. How was (is) the crucifixion (and by extension, the resurrection) a stumbling block to the Jews?

9. How was (is) the crucifixion (and by extension, the resurrection) foolishness to the Gentiles?

10. How is this message a stumbling block or foolishness today?

11. Why does Paul call “someone” a fool for asking a question (1 Corinthians 15:36)?

12. What do these passages tell us about the resurrection and what we will be like?

Taking It Home

13. How strong is your faith in the resurrection (including your own)?

14. How can you help strengthen another’s faith in the resurrection?