



## 10 | What happens when I die?

This study guide is meant to be used as a simple tool to help your Small group dive deeper into god's word, nurture conversation, And draw your group nearer to Christ. As a leader, begin your Group in prayer by asking the Holy Spirit to lead your discussion.



# reflect

*Have you experienced the profound loss of someone close to you dying? What emotions did you experience?*





The pain we feel when we lose someone we love is something overwhelming and yet, we are fascinated with death, while at the same time we are afraid of it. This is because:

- Death involves a significant personal loss for us when someone we love dies.
- We have no personal experience of what lies beyond death.
- Some of the things that are said to happen after we die can seem quite unfair and even frightening.

William Lane Craig "I remember vividly the first time my father told me that someday I would die. Somehow as a child the thought had just never occurred to me. When he told me, I was filled with fear and unbearable sadness. And though he tried repeatedly to reassure me that this was a long way off, that did not seem to matter. Whether sooner or later, the undeniable fact was that I would die and be no more, and the thought overwhelmed me."

**WHETHER SOONER OR LATER, THE  
UNDENIABLE FACT WAS THAT I WOULD  
DIE AND BE NO MORE, AND THE THOUGHT  
OVERWHELMED ME."**

WILLIAM LANE CRAIG



# search

***DEATH SEEMS SO UNNATURAL AND UNNERVING TO US BECAUSE GOD NEVER INTENDED FOR US TO DIE IN THE FIRST PLACE.***



I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE.

JOHN 11:25

## 1 THE BIBLE'S PICTURE ABOUT DEATH

JOHN 5:24-29, 11:9-14, 1 CORINTHIANS 15: 51-55, REVELATION 21:4

What the Bible teaches about death is very encouraging. It teaches us that:

- Death is like sleep.
- Jesus has power over death as demonstrated by His resurrection from the dead.
- When we put our faith in Jesus, we will be raised back to life when Jesus comes back
- There will be no more pain or suffering or death in heaven and the new earth.

## 2 WHY IS THE BIBLE'S PICTURE IMPORTANT

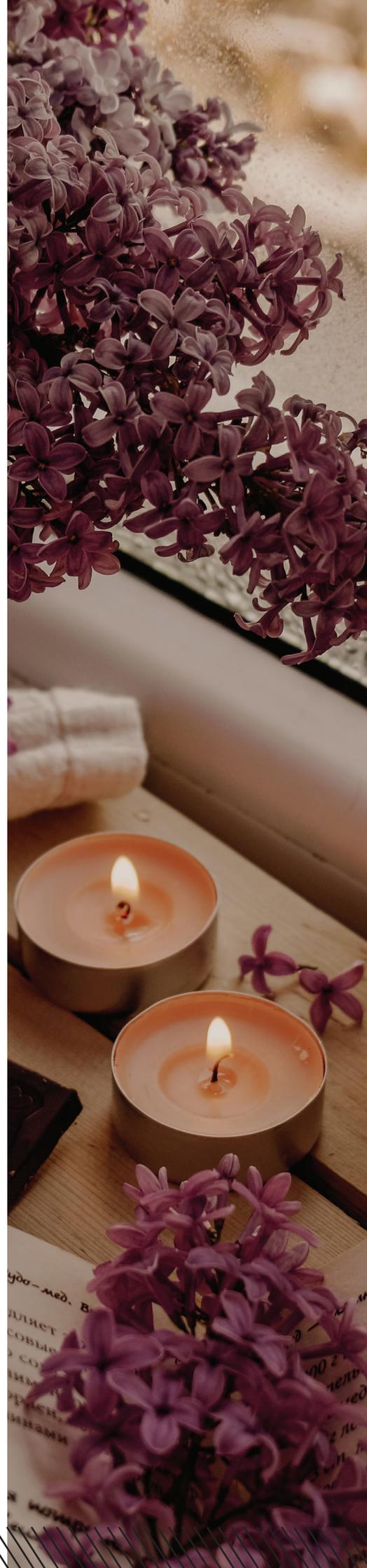
What the Bible teaches about death is very important:

- Satan's original lie to Eve was that she would not really die. We now know this to be untrue.
- "The dead know nothing." Ecclesiastes 9:5,6
- Reports about dead people coming back to visit family members are actually evil spirits pretending to be their loved ones. Through his deception, Satan will spiritually deceive people.

## 3 TRUSTING JESUS

We can trust Jesus even in the face of death. He said:

- "I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in me will live, even after dying." John 11:25
- "I am the living one. I died, but look—I am alive forever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and the grace." Revelation 1:18





# THERE IS A BEAUTIFUL PROMISE FOR PEOPLE WHO FOLLOW JESUS:

“ Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope. For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him.

According to the Lord's word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

1 THESSALONIANS 4:13-18





# real talk

**Q1.**

How does the biblical teaching that death is like sleep compare with you're understanding of what death is like?

**Q2.**

Why is it that so many people believe we go straight to heaven or hell when we die?

**Q3.**

Is this biblical teaching a reassuring idea for you or do you find the concept that death is like sleep quite challenging?

**Q4.**

How is Jesus' resurrection from the dead significant for you personally?



# reimagine

DISCUSS THE MEANING OF JOHN 5:24-29



What do you like about Jesus' words? What does this teach us about Jesus?  
How can we make the most of every day of life God has given us?

## Further Study

Genesis 2:7, John 11:1-44, Acts 2:29-34, 1 Corinthians 15:51-53, 1 Timothy 6:15-16, 2 Timothy 4:7-8, Psalms 6:5, 115:17, Ecclesiastes 9:5, 12:7, Job 14:10-12, 1 Kings 2:10

## Resources for further reading

- *A Trip into the Supernatural* - Roger Morneau
- *The Mystery of Death* - John Bradshaw
- *Beyond Death's Door* - Gerald Wheeler

**NEXT STEP** Jesus has promised that if you trust Him, even if you die, He has the power to raise you back to life. Would you like to accept His promise of eternal life today?

