

Materials I Need:

Legend:



= Option 1, Appropriate for 1st – 2nd Grade



= Option 2, Appropriate for 3rd – 6th Grade

Memory Work:

“And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins.”
1 Corinthians 15:17 (NIV)

Suggested Thematic Tracks:

① Live Radically Because of the Resurrection

HOOK: The Gospel of Christ (*Discussion*)

Resurrection Re-Enactment (*Skit*)

Eyewitnesses (*Activity*)

That's RADICAL! (*Discussion/Activity*)

The Power of Death (*Discussion*)

LOOK: Benefits of the Resurrection (*Discussion*)

Proof of the Resurrection (*Worksheet*)

Seeds Sown (*Activity*)

Micro/Macro (*Activity*)

Marketplace Mockery (*Skit/Discussion*)

Vanity Insanity (*Activity*)

TOOK: Radical vs. Normal (*Discussion*)

Every Minute of Every Day (*Discussion/Application*)

How Will I Be Remembered? (*Discussion*)

Sound of the Trumpet (*Craft*)

Radical Christians in History (*Activity*)



Hope over the Hill (*Discussion/Activity*)

➤ **Complementary Activities**



Hook:



① **The Gospel of Christ (*Discussion*).**   Explain to the students that after Paul (previously Saul) became a Christian, he spent the rest of his life preaching the Gospel of Christ. Ask the students the following questions:

1. What is the Gospel?
2. Why did Paul sacrifice so much to preach the Gospel?
3. How does it affect us?

Ask the students to explain or write down the points of the Gospel. Discuss why it is the basis for the Christian faith. For the younger students, you could have the wordless book or a Gospel tract available to help them define it better. Ask them what is the most important part of the Gospel. Explain that some of the Corinthians were confused on one part that was very important and Paul

finished his letter by telling them why this wrong belief needed to be corrected right away.

- ① **Resurrection Re-Enactment (Skit).** 🎭, 🦋 Dress in character and perform a skit showing the events of the morning of the resurrection of Christ. Review the Easter lesson as the women arrive at the tomb and find it empty. Talk about the events leading up to and after the resurrection of Christ. Ask the question: "Why is the resurrection such an important event?" (Matthew 28:1-10; Luke 24:1-49; John 20, 21.)
- ① **Eyewitnesses (Activity).** 🎭, 🦋 During the opening time of class, have someone enter the classroom wearing or doing something unusual that causes the students to take notice. Don't stop class or call any attention to this person. After the person leaves the room, ask the students questions about what they saw. Explain to them that they were eyewitnesses because they saw what happened with their own eyes and could tell others what they saw. Discuss what it would have been like to have been an eyewitness during Jesus' time here on earth. Tell them that they will hear how Paul reminded the Corinthians of all the eyewitnesses who actually saw Jesus after He had risen from the grave.
- ① **That's RADICAL! (Discussion/Activity).** 🎭, 🦋 "Radical" is a contemporary expression used by many of our youth today. Ask the students if they know what it means to be radical. Use the dictionary so that they understand its meaning. It might be fun to list different activities to see if they can think of "radical" ideas that would change these activities. For instance, walking on the beach would become radical if you had cross-country skis with rollers on the bottom. Tennis might become radical if you played with water balloons. Explain that if something is radical, it is carried to the farthest limit, extreme, or opposite the norm. Paul told the Corinthians that the resurrection of Christ should cause them to live radically different from the non-believers around them.
- ① **The Power of Death (Discussion).** 🎭, 🦋 Stimulate a discussion about the power and permanency of death by bringing in dead leaves, flowers, or whole plants that have died. Ask the students to make observations of these plants and articulate what they know about death from previous experiences with pets, etc. For younger students, guide the discussion carefully with specific questions. Tell the students, in today's lesson, they will hear how God's power is far greater than the power of death.
- **Measure Up Incentive Memorization (Review).** 🎭, 🦋 Check the students' memorization at the beginning of class as they come in, and award lesson buttons and wall-hangings as appropriate. Encourage new methods of memorization with the students and parents if a student is having difficulty. Encourage hard work and success in memorizing the whole verse, making appropriate accommodations when necessary. Utilize this time of Scripture review to discuss the Biblical concepts with individual students. Shepherd the students' hearts toward a right attitude and motivation in memorization of God's truth.



Book:

Presentation Ideas –

- The Empty Tomb (Illustration/Coloring Page).** 🎭, 🦋 1CO10.GF1.
- The Rapture (Illustration/Coloring Page).** 🎭, 🦋 1CO10.GF2.

Bible Adventure for 1st – 6th Grades –

Today we come to Paul's final correction in the book of 1 Corinthians. Remember that all along in this letter, Paul had to correct the Corinthian believers in everything from arguments about who the greatest church leader was to the proper use of their spiritual gifts. In chapter 15, we come to Paul's most important correction. Some of the Corinthians were questioning whether God would actually one day raise dead believers from the grave and give them new bodies. This was a serious matter, and Paul carefully and logically made it clear that just as God had raised Christ from the dead, He would also raise believers from the dead and give them perfect bodies fit for heaven.

Paul began by reminding the Corinthians of God's Gospel of salvation. It is of utmost importance and Paul laid it out in simple facts: "That Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that He was buried, that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures" (15:3, 4). The Corinthians had believed this and had been saved, and yet some were listening to the ideas of the pagans living around them who claimed that the notion of any sort of resurrection was ridiculous. Paul called such pagan thinking utter foolishness. He warned the Corinthians that by questioning God's power to raise a dead believer from the grave and give him a new body, they were questioning the part of the Gospel where God did just that with Christ's dead body! Paul emphatically stated that to not believe in Christ's resurrection was to rip out the very foundation from underneath a believer's hope of salvation. If God did not have the power to raise Christ from the dead, then He would not have the power to save man from sin and death. The Christian faith would only be wishful thinking like any other human religion or philosophy.

However, Paul had his faith firmly rooted in the hope of Christ's resurrection, and he knew it guaranteed the resurrection of all believers to come. Paul proceeded to give many convincing proofs that God had indeed raised Christ from the dead. The first proof was the Corinthian church itself. These believers had been transformed from hopeless sinners to people who believed and accepted the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The radical change in their lives could never have happened by human effort. It happened only by the mighty power of God to change lives—the very same power that raised Christ from the dead! Secondly, Christ's life, death, and resurrection happened just as the Old Testament prophets had prophesied hundreds of years before. He was the complete fulfillment of everything that they said would be true of the Messiah. The third proof that Christ was raised from the dead was the fact that, after His resurrection, He appeared to His disciples and to more than 500 other believers. They were all eyewitnesses and every disciple preached the very same account of how Jesus came back to life. If they had made it all up, their stories would have eventually contradicted one another and gotten confused. But because the resurrection is true, the disciples were willing to suffer greatly in order to spread the wonderful news of salvation. Lastly, Paul used his own life as proof of the resurrection. God's mighty power had changed him from someone who bitterly hated Christians to someone who, like the disciples, was willing to suffer greatly and even die so that the hope of Christ's resurrection could be spread to all nations. These men would never have been able to survive all the terrible persecution they faced if they weren't absolutely certain that Christ was raised from the dead and had the power and authority to save people from their sin.

Paul then went on to use examples from nature to show that God has the power to change a body that has died and been buried into a perfect body that will live forever. He used the example of a seed. The seed you plant in the ground is quite different from the plant that will eventually grow from it. In fact, the seed is dead, and when buried in dirt, part of it decays, and yet another part is raised up to a whole new plant. God's mysterious design of the seed is an illustration of His great power to raise both Christ and all believers from the dead. Paul also pointed out all of creation in general. In His great power, God has organized the flesh of animals into all sorts of different things. He has made man, birds, fish, insects, lizards, and anything else you can name. If He can do that, He certainly can take a body that has decayed in the grave and reorganize it into a body that is perfect and brand new. What a hope it is for believers to know that they will one day have bodies that will never get sick and die! No more sadness and sin but rather perfect bodies fit for heaven. Paul taught that this resurrection of believers would happen at the time of the Rapture. Christ will come in the clouds with the trumpet call of God, and believers who are dead will be raised up with new bodies, and ones who are alive at the time will be changed in "the twinkling of an eye." All will be perfect and ready to enter God's kingdom.

The Corinthians who were questioning the reality of the resurrection were stopped in their tracks by Paul's convincing arguments. Paul warned them that their thinking was very dangerous. If there were no resurrection from the dead, then that meant that Christ Himself had never been raised from the dead, and if Christ had never been raised from the dead, then belief in the Gospel was useless. They might as well go back to their worldly, pagan ways, and Paul had endured suffering and wasted his life for nothing. However, Paul rebuked, "Come back to your senses as you ought, and stop sinning; for there are some who are ignorant of God—I say this to your shame" (15:34). The Corinthian church needed to get back to teaching the absolute certainty of God's power to resurrect those who had died. They were to stand firm in the truths of the Gospel and let nothing move them from it. This would enable them to live radically different lives. They, like Paul, could give themselves completely to the work of the Lord. They could spread the Good News of Jesus even if it meant suffering for their faith, because their hope was firmly planted on the love and power of God. They would have strength in the face of persecution, because they were certain that this life is not all there is. They will be resurrected and live forever in the

joy of heaven.

In the same way, those of us who are Christians today must lead lives that look dramatically different from the unbelievers around us. We know that God's power is real, and one day He will raise us to new and perfect bodies. How do we know this? By carefully studying God's Word and devoting ourselves to prayer. We will make choices like telling the truth when a lie would make things easier for us. We will talk about our wonderful Savior even though others make fun of us. We will obey God and honor those in authority even when it makes no sense to us. This will look foolish to non-Christians, but the bottom line is this: because of our hope in Christ's resurrection and our resurrection to come, we can give our lives to complete obedience to our loving God, no matter what the cost.

Aim Questions

1. **What was Paul's final correction in 1 Corinthians?** *(The doctrine of resurrection from the dead.)*
2. **Why is the resurrection such an important issue?** *(If Christ was not raised from the dead, our faith is futile and we are still in our sins.)*
3. **What evidence do we have that Christ was raised?** *(The church of transformed sinners, fulfilled Old Testament Scriptures, over 500 eyewitnesses, God's grace in Paul, and the unified message of the apostles.)*
4. **How does Paul make sense of the resurrection of the dead?** *(Through analogies of the seed and of the organized flesh of various animals.)*
5. **How does Paul exhort the Corinthian believers regarding their doubt of this doctrine?** *(He told them to come to their senses, stop sinning, and give themselves fully to the work of the Lord.)*
6. **How foolish does your life look to the world?**



Look:



① **Benefits of the Resurrection (Discussion).** Ask the students the following questions.

1. What if Christ had not been raised from the dead?
2. Where would that leave the believer? *(Explain that there would be no "Good News" and no atonement for our sins.)*
3. If Christ had not conquered death, what hope would we have? *(Because He lives, we have the power and hope for an eternal future with Him in heaven.)*

Talk about the benefits that believers have now and forever. Look for verses that support these hopes and promises. Review these verses in preparation for the discussion:

Power of Christ: *(Philippians 3:21; John 5:21,28-29; John 10:18; 2 Corinthians 12:9; 1 Corinthians 5:4)*

Believer's Hope: *(Matthew 13:26; 2 Peter 1:16; 1 Corinthians 15:24; Titus 1:2; Hebrews 4:1; Colossians 1:5; Romans 5:1-2; Romans 8:18-39)*

Promises of God: *(Acts 13:23; Romans 15:8; 2 Thessalonians 1:9; Hebrews 6:12; Ephesians 1:13; James 1:12; 2 Peter 3:4; 2 Peter 3:13; Romans 4:13; Galatians 3:18)*



① **Proof of the Resurrection (Worksheet).** Ask the students what the events were that Paul cited to the Corinthians as evidence, or proof, that the resurrection of Christ really took place. Use **1CO10.GF3** to review the points covered in today's Bible Adventure. *Answers: 1. Corinthian; 2. life, death, resurrection, prophets; 3. resurrection, disciples; 4. eyewitnesses; 5. suffer greatly; 6. Paul's, Gospel*



① **Seeds Sown (Activity).** Obtain several seed packets for gardening with a picture of the plant on the packet, or find your own pictures of the plants that these seeds will yield if planted. Empty the contents of the seed packets into individual containers, leaving the packets in a stack by them. Have the students match the individual seed with the corresponding picture of its plant body. Discuss 1 Corinthians 15:35-38. Explain that this great mystery of sowing and harvesting in creation has been common to man since the beginning of time. Discuss how this God-given illustration helps us to understand the mystery of the resurrection. This activity can be combined with the *Micro/Macro Activity* by using both as learning stations through which the students can rotate.

① **Micro/Macro (Activity).** 🎨, 🦋 Obtain numerous pictures of both microscopic and telescopic matter from science magazines, text books, or the Internet. Divide a wall of the classroom or chalkboard into two halves marked with the words “microscope” and “telescope” or with a picture of each. Ask each of the students to take a picture and tape it to one of the two halves. Afterward, discuss the organized matter pictured on the wall. Read 1 Corinthians 15:39-42. Explain that just as the flesh of living organisms and the splendor of earthly and heavenly bodies (mountains, valleys, rivers, stars, moon, sun) differ from one another in type and splendor, so, too, does the resurrected body differ from the mortal body in splendor. God created all of these things in all their majesty. Imagine how great the resurrected body will be that God creates out of our mortal bodies!

① **Marketplace Mockery (Skit/Discussion).** 🦋 Prepare a skit, with costumes, that depicts Acts 17:16-18, when Paul was being mocked by Epicurean and Stoic philosophers in the marketplace where he was preaching the Good News about Christ and the resurrection. This activity can follow *Proof of the Resurrection Worksheet* to reinforce evidence of the resurrection. Explain to the students that these philosophers taught beliefs that considered the resurrection of the dead to be a ridiculous wish.

The Epicureans believed that the world was only the result of the random motion and combination of atoms, and that there was no divine intervention at all in life. The Stoics believed that all things were a combination of four elements – fire, air, water, and earth – and that a god, or the divine, was found in all these elements throughout the universe.)

Stop the skit after the philosophers dispute the Gospel and mock Paul. Invite the students to represent the argument or proofs that Paul would have given for the resurrection of the dead. Review the passage as needed.

① **Vanity Insanity (Activity).** 🎨, 🦋 Prepare two recipes before classtime and gather all the materials needed for both. One recipe will be a legitimate cookie dough of some sort, while the other recipe will be a nonsensical, inedible substance worse than mud pie (include crazy but safe ingredients, from dirt to soap suds and slime). Put the ingredients of one recipe on one table and the ingredients of the other recipe on another table. The ingredients should be unmeasured but contained. Utensils, measuring cups/spoons, and a mixing bowl should be supplied for both tables. Divide the class into two teams after over emphasizing that everyone must wash their hands and touch nothing that might contaminate the project. Assign each team a table and recipe and ask them to complete the project as neatly and as accurately as possible. Encourage the students to work together as a team and include everyone present. When both batches of dough are mixed, discuss with the students the value of their projects. Ask the students:

1. Which batch is most valuable? Why?
2. Were both projects worthwhile? Why or why not?
3. How important was it that the insanity pie ingredients were measured out accurately?
4. How did your team members feel about their task?
5. If we spent our careers or lifetimes on several insanity pie projects, what might people say about our lives?

Discuss the meaning of vanity and how it would apply most to Christians who live their lives preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ if there really were no resurrection.

➤ **Aim Questions (Worksheet).** 🎨 Have the students answer the Aim Questions about today’s Bible Adventure, **1CO10.GF4**.

➤ **Passage Review Questions (Worksheet).** 🎨, 🦋 This booklet contains many questions from the Scripture passage covered in today’s lesson. Students may work on them in class and complete them during the week at home, **1CO10.GF5**.

➤ **1 Corinthians 15:17 (Memory Verse Song).** 🎨 Words and music for today’s memory verse are available upon request from Children’s Ministry.



Took:

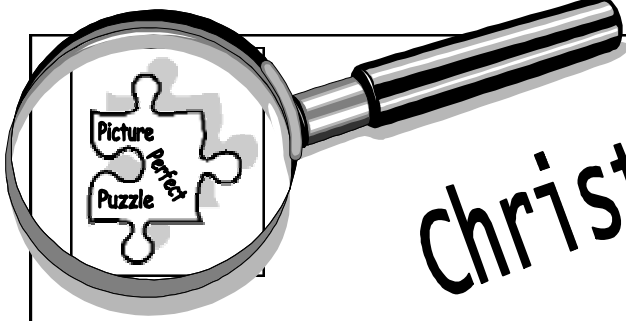
- ① **Radical vs. Normal (Discussion).** 🐛, 🦋 Godly vs. Worldly. Compare and contrast viewpoints, attitudes, lifestyles, choices, plans, time, actions, emotions, etc., from these two perspectives. Ask the students: “How foolish does your life look to the world?”
- ① **Every Minute of Every Day (Discussion/Application).** 🐛, 🦋 Explain to the students that we as believers are called to give, not a portion, but all of ourselves all of the time to all that we do. Use the clock (1C10.GF6) to talk about and record ways that the students might exhibit radically changed lives after being transformed by Christ. How are their days any different from their friend’s days? Instruct them to write things that they might do, say, or participate in during the day that would set them apart from the world. These large clocks could be made into very large wristwatches, wall clocks, or pocket watches once they have completed the ideas inside.
- ① **How Will I Be Remembered? (Discussion).** 🐛, 🦋 Ask the students the following questions:
1. Are you living radically for the Lord?
 2. What are the signs of a radical lifestyle?
- Look at several obituaries and discuss how these people spent their lives. Ask the students how they would like to be remembered. Talk about living and loving radically for the Lord. How do our lives effect those around us?
- ① **Sound of the Trumpet (Craft).** 🐛, 🦋 Each student will need:
- 1C10.GF7 Pgs. 1 & 2
 ½sheet of construction paper
 strips of gold paper or foil
- Have the students follow the directions below to complete their crafts:
1. Color the trumpet and add glitter.
 2. Paste the trumpet on the ½sheet of construction paper.
 3. Paste the verse and reference at the open end of the trumpet.
 4. Cut and paste the thin strips of gold paper or foil onto the construction paper as if they were sounds coming out of the trumpet. Be careful not to hide the verse.
- Review what the sound of the trumpet meant in Exodus 19:16. (*It signaled the appearance of God.*) Ask the students what 1 Corinthians 15:52 tells us the trumpet will announce.
- ① **Radical Christians in History (Activity).** 🐛, 🦋 Bring in brief biographies on Christians in history who lived radically because of the Gospel. Share this information with the students and ask them how these scenarios might be played out today. Ask them what impact for the kingdom these people had for on those around them.
- ① **Hope over the Hill (Discussion/Activity).** 🐛, 🦋 Read the passages pertaining to Christ’s appearances after His resurrection, and discuss with the students all the characteristics of His resurrected body (John 20:25-29; Matthew 22:30, 28:5-10; Mark 16:9-20; Luke 24:13-32; Acts 1:3-11). Discuss the hope that believers possess of having this kind of body when Christ returns (Romans 8:11). Give the students some time to draw or write on a piece of paper what they picture themselves doing with this new and perfect body. Afterward, point out that these bodies will enable us to worship God with full fervor, non-stop. Explain that this is our true hope, that we will be able to worship God perfectly forever, with no sin to divide our hearts (Philippians 3:21).
- **1 Corinthians “Measure Up” Take-Home (Incentive).** 🐛, 🦋 Review today’s verse and lesson theme one last time. Encourage the students to continue memorizing both of these throughout the week to earn the next button. Test their memory of past lesson themes and verses as time permits.

The Empty Tomb



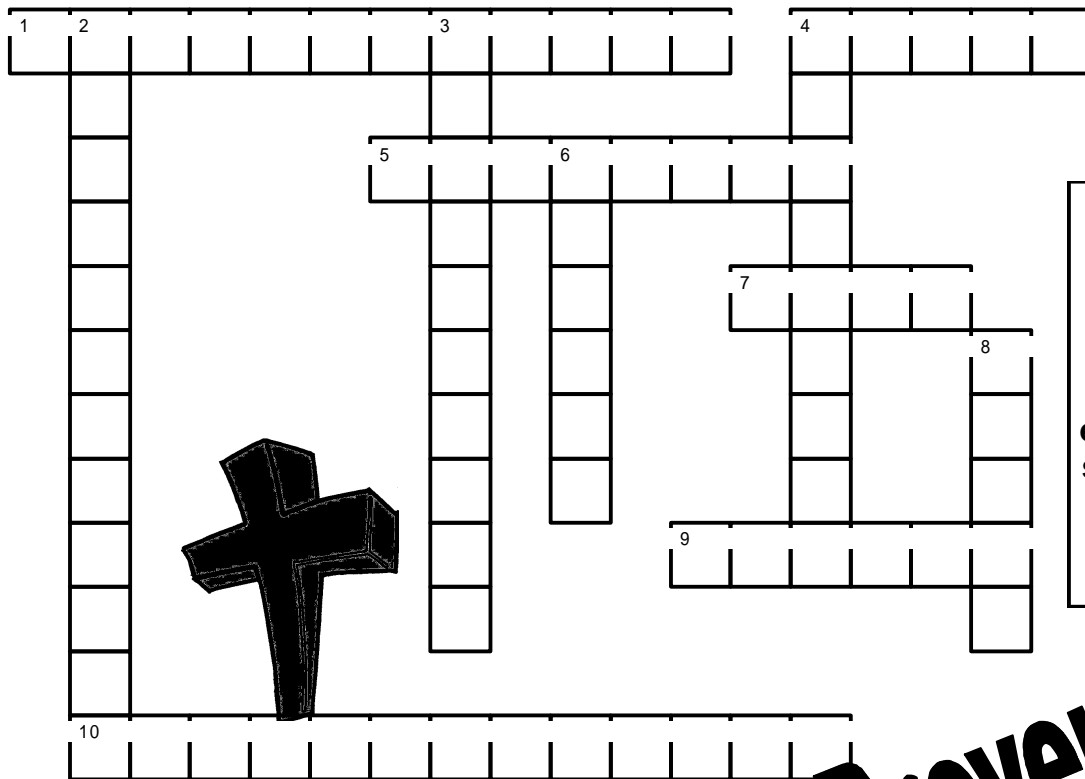
The Rapture





Christ ROSE from the Grave

In 1 Corinthians 15, Paul gives us 15 proofs that Jesus indeed rose from the grave. His resurrection was no small event. He appeared to more than 500 believers and to His disciples. Use the word bank below to fill in the puzzle and then fill in the blanks to the six proofs below. Some words are used more than once in the proofs.



Corinthian
life
death
resurrection
prophets
disciples
eyewitnesses
suffer greatly
Paul's
preach
Gospel

Proven!

1. The first proof was the _____ church.
2. The second proof was that Christ's _____, _____, and _____ happened just as the Old Testament _____ had prophesied hundreds of years before.
3. The third proof was the fact that after His _____ He appeared to His _____ and to more than 500 other believers.
4. The fourth proof was that all the _____ told the same story.
5. The fifth proof was that the disciples were willing to _____ in order to spread the wonderful news of salvation.
6. The sixth proof was _____ own life as he changed from a man who killed believers to a man who laid down his own life to preach the _____.

Aim Questions

Answer the following questions about today's Bible Adventure.

1. What was Paul's final correction in 1 Corinthians?
2. Why is the resurrection such an important issue?
3. What evidence do we have that Christ was raised?
4. How does Paul make sense of the resurrection of the dead?
5. How does Paul exhort the Corinthian believers regarding their doubt of this doctrine?
6. How foolish does your life look to the world?

Believers, like Christ, will be resurrected from the dead and given everlasting bodies fit for eternity in heaven with God. The hope of this resurrection causes a believer to live radically for Jesus.



"And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins."

Passage Review Questions

1 Corinthians 15

Of what did Paul want to remind the Corinthians? (15:1)

What does Paul describe in this passage? (15:2-5)

For what did Christ die? (15:3)

How do we know that Christ was buried and rose again? (15:4)

To whom did Christ appear after He rose from the dead?
(15:5-8)

When Paul wrote this letter, were there still people alive who had seen the risen Christ? If so, who? (15:6)

Why did Paul say that he did not deserve to be called an apostle? (15:9)

Who empowered Paul to work harder than any other apostle? (15:10)

What part of the Gospel message were some of the Corinthians questioning? (15:12)

If there is no resurrection, what effect does that have on you and me and those who have gone before us? (15:12-19)

What does Paul affirm in this passage? (15:20)

Through what man did sin come to kill us all? (15:21, 22)

Through what man did life come to secure eternity for all who believe? (15:21-23)

To whom will Jesus hand the kingdom over once the end is completed? (15:24-28)

Who is the last enemy that Christ must defeat? (15:26)

Describe our bodies before and after the resurrection. (15:42-44)

What will not inherit the kingdom of God? (15:50)

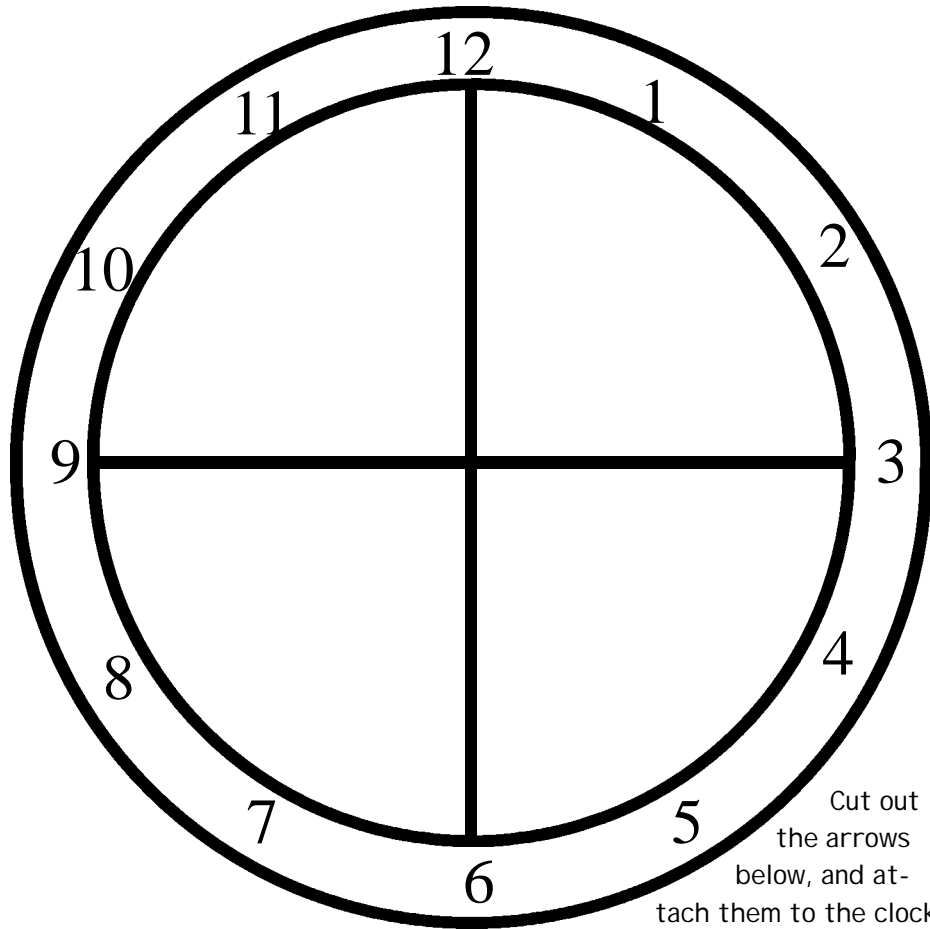
What is the mystery that Paul tells us? (15:51-52)

What are the sting of death and the power of sin? (15:56)

Through whom does God give us victory over sin? (15:57)

To what does Paul challenge the Corinthians? (15:58)

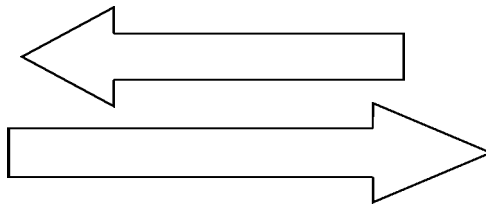
Every Minute of Every Day



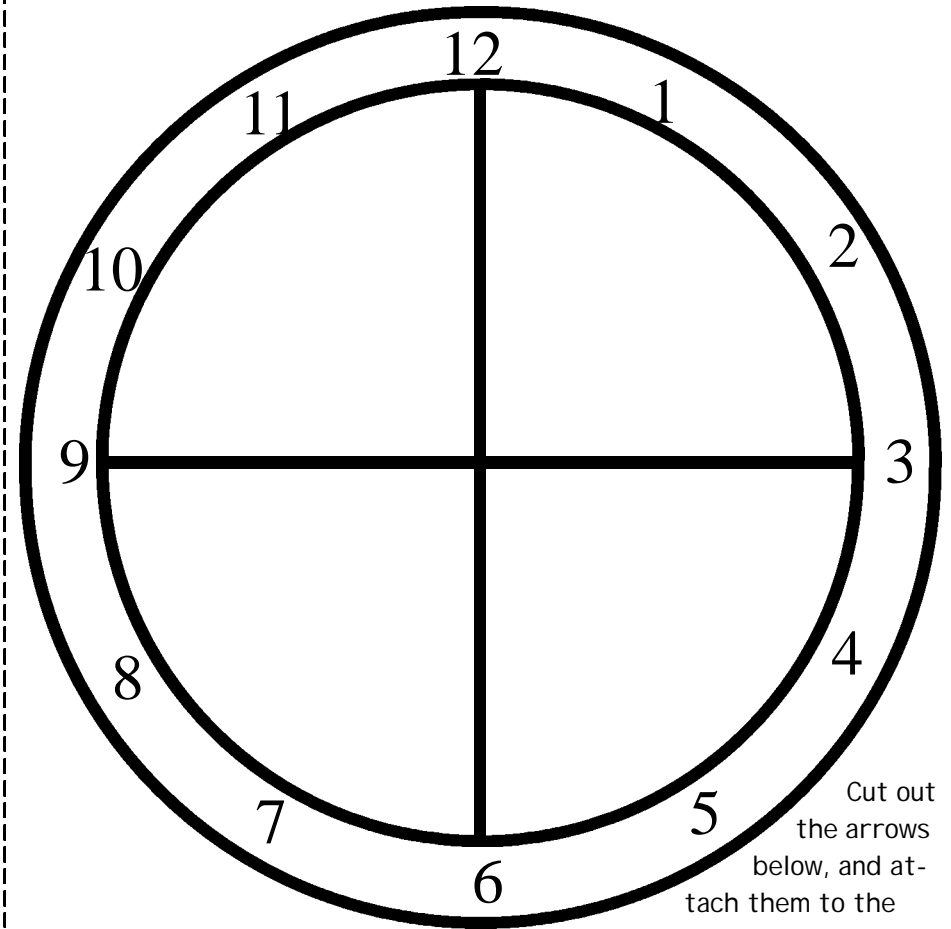
Cut out the arrows below, and attach them to the clock

Record how your daily routine might be different from the norm if you are living radically for Christ. Use the sections within the clock face to challenge yourself for the coming week to walk worthy. As believers, we are called to give all of ourselves all of the time to all that we do.

with a brad. Be radical with your clock! Make it into a giant wrist or pocket watch or hang it around your neck.



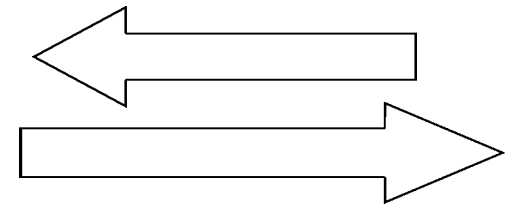
Every Minute of Every Day



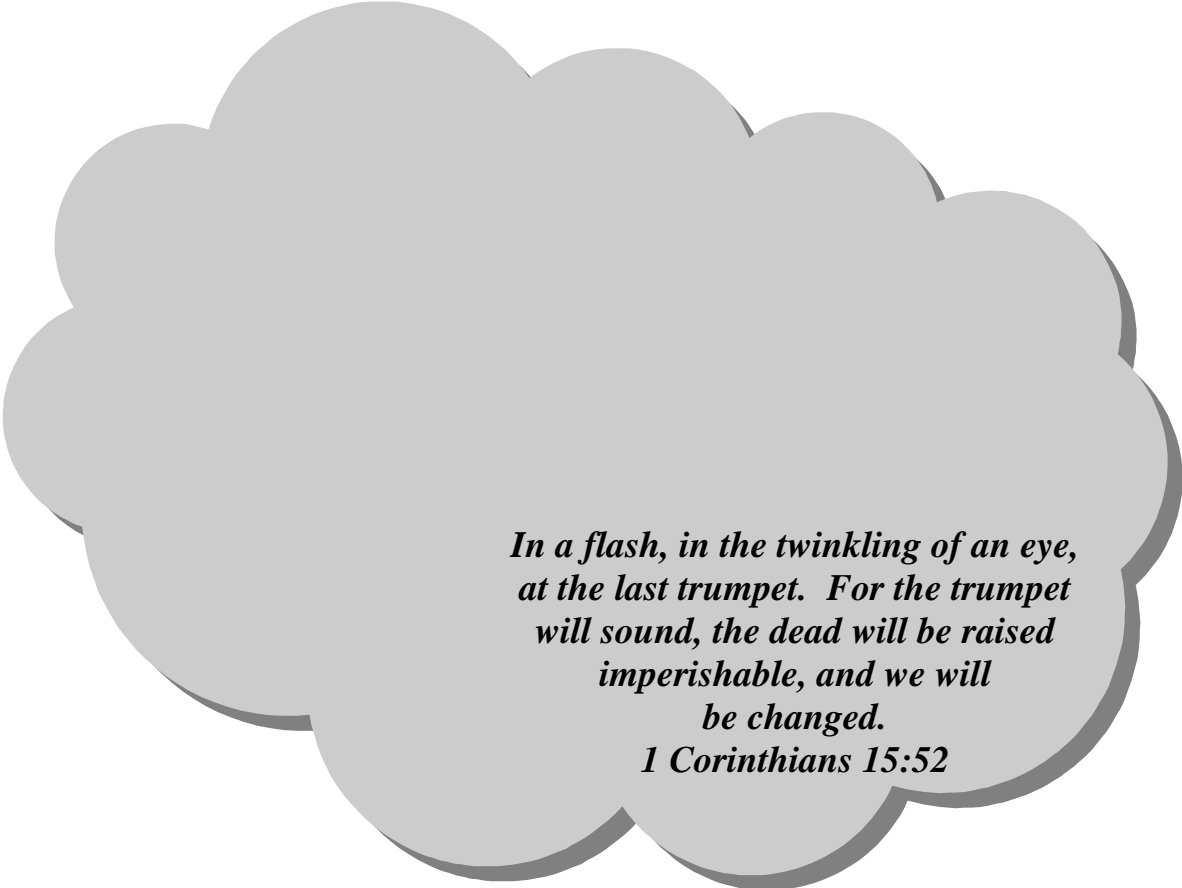
Cut out the arrows below, and attach them to the clock

Record how your daily routine might be different from the norm if you are living radically for Christ. Use the sections within the clock face to challenge yourself for the coming week to walk worthy. As believers, we are called to give all of ourselves all of the time to all that we do.

with a brad. Be radical with your clock! Make it into a giant wrist or pocket watch or hang it around your neck.

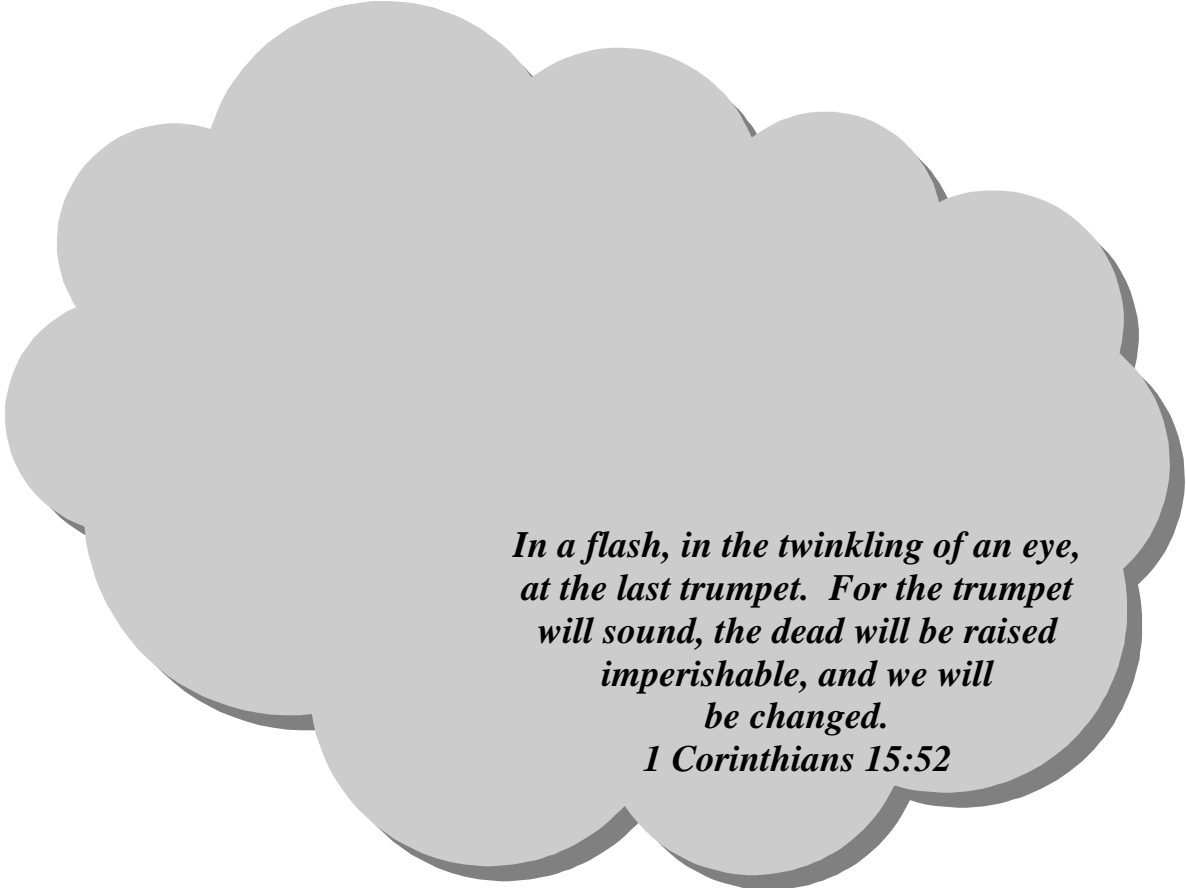






*In a flash, in the twinkling of an eye,
at the last trumpet. For the trumpet
will sound, the dead will be raised
imperishable, and we will
be changed.*

1 Corinthians 15:52



*In a flash, in the twinkling of an eye,
at the last trumpet. For the trumpet
will sound, the dead will be raised
imperishable, and we will
be changed.*

1 Corinthians 15:52