

13. It is a bit old now but a survey in 2002 asked clergy to respond to the statement “I believe that Jesus Christ physically rose from the dead”. Two thirds did believe and teach it with confidence. But for various reasons the other third did not. Why do you think so many refuse to believe, or struggle to believe, in the resurrection?

## Pray

Pray for the smooth progress of the work on our church building.

Pray for the Christian Life and Witness courses coming up in May and the opportunity of the Festival of Hope evangelistic meetings in Blackpool in September.

Pray that we would be able to resist the temptations to doubt God’s word and for those who teach to preach the word with confidence and courage.

Pray for our Annual Parochial Church meeting and those who will be elected to join the existing members of the PCC. Pray that the PCC would function well, and that decisions made would be done so seeking God’s guidance and provision.

*David Phillips,  
April 2018*

# 1 Corinthians 15

## Week 1 : “I believe He rose again”



“To win people for Christ and to build them up in Christ.”  
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### Read 1 Corinthians 15.1-11

*Note that in verse 3 when Paul speaks of what he “received” he seems to mean by revelation from God rather than from the other Apostles.*

1. How important is the resurrection of Jesus for salvation? What does Romans 10.9-10 say about this?

2. If someone refuses to believe that Jesus was raised from the dead can they be saved?

3. In each of the following passages how did the Apostles include the resurrection in their message, and how central was it? (Notice that in the first two the audience was primarily Jewish whilst in the third they were pagans who knew little, if anything, of the Old Testament.)

- Acts 2 verse 31
- Acts 4 verse 2
- Acts 17 verses 18 & 32

4. How does what happened in Athens (Acts 17) show the difficulties in communicating the gospel to people with little or no background understanding?

5. What is the importance of the words “in accordance with the Scriptures” in verses 1 Cor 15.4 & 5?

6. The Old Testament scriptures are one witness of Jesus’ resurrection, Paul goes on to list many more in verses 5-8. Why does he do this?

7. One of the tools of evangelism, of sharing the good news of Jesus with others, is to set out the evidence for the resurrection from both Old and New Testament. In your experience how effective is this in leading people to faith?

8. From the resurrection appearances listed here by Paul or in the four gospels do you have a particular favourite and if so why? Does it in any way resonate with your own coming to faith?

9. In verse 2 Paul it says “and by which you are being saved”. What is he referring to when he says “by which”?

10. What does verse 2 also say about the importance of holding fast? What things can cause, or at least tempt, people to stop holding fast?

11. At the recent Holiday Club the children learnt about “The Armour of God” from Ephesians 6.11-18. How does that fit with the idea of standing firm and are there particular items of the armour that can help us to resist the temptations to doubt truths such as the resurrection of Christ?

12. Paul doesn’t spell out in 1 Cor 15.1-11 why the resurrection is necessary important for our salvation, but what do the following passages have to teach us on the matter? How would you explain each of them to someone who asked what they mean?

- Romans 4.25

- 1 Peter 2.24

- 1 Peter 1. 3-5

Can you spot the link between the third passage above and the armour of God?