



Week 5
Sermon Series: Death is Defeated
Sermon Title: "Sown in Weakness"
Sermon Text: 1 Corinthians 15:35-44
Study Handout Week of: February 27, 2022
Group Week of: March 6, 2022
Sermon Date: March 13, 2022

Scriptures for Additional Daily Studies	
Day 1	Heavenly Body – 1 John 3:1-3
Day 2	Kinds of Creatures – Genesis 1:11-26
Day 3	Glory – 2 Corinthians 3:7-18
Day 4	Earthly Brokenness – 2 Cor 4:1-18
Day 5	The Flesh – Romans 7:14-25

The Text: 1 Corinthians 15:37-44

³⁷ When you sow, you do not plant the body that will be, but just a seed, perhaps of wheat or of something else. ³⁸ But God gives it a body as he has determined, and to each kind of seed he gives its own body. ³⁹ Not all flesh is the same: People have one kind of flesh, animals have another, birds another and fish another. ⁴⁰ There are also heavenly bodies and there are earthly bodies; but the splendor of the heavenly bodies is one kind, and the splendor of the earthly bodies is another. ⁴¹ The sun has one kind of splendor, the moon another and the stars another; and star differs from star in splendor.

⁴² So will it be with the resurrection of the dead. The body that is sown is perishable, it is raised imperishable; ⁴³ it is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power; ⁴⁴ it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body.

Textual Questions

- 1) What is the message God and Paul are speaking to the Corinthians (and to you) through this passage?
- 2) Why does Paul draw a distinction between a seed and wheat?
- 3) What are the differences between our present bodies and our future bodies?

Discussion Guide Questions

- 1) What do you imagine humans will be like in heaven? Describe your thoughts below. After describing your thoughts, explain where you got those “ideas” from.

- 2) In reality, the similarity between our heavenly bodies and our present bodies is mirrored in the similarity between a grain of wheat and an entire wheat plant. If this body is no more than a “seed” of what your heavenly body will be, why do you think people so often assume that in heaven we will look similar to the way we look today?

- 3) Paul says that in order for the wheat plant to come to be, the seed must die. The correlation is that our present bodies must perish in order for our eternal ones to come to be. With this in mind, how should we view and take care of our earthly bodies? How does this effect “anti-aging” practices? How does this effect trying to take care of one’s health?

- 4) Our present bodies are sown in dishonor but will be raised in honor. What about the present body, is “dishonorable?” Do you think this relates to cosmetic things, health issues, or spiritual matters? Write out your thoughts below.

- 5) Our present bodies are sown in weakness but will be raised in power. What are some of the benefits to having a “weak” body at the present? How can you, with this *weak* body honor God? Write out your specific areas of weakness below, and how you can specifically honor God with those weaknesses.

- 6) In 2 Corinthians 4:7 Paul says, “We have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us.” What is the “jar of clay” and what is the treasure? Secondly, what does this passage teach us about how to live with a body that is perishing?

- 7) The world fears death because it has no hope after death. The world fears age because it does not understand that this body is meant to die. How do we as Christians push against the cultural tides of our world when it comes to age and the wasting away of the body? If you are younger, how can you plan to age in a way that honors God? If you are older, how can you now honor God with a body that is beginning to perish?