# Participants Homework

For the week of February 14-18, 2022

# LOVE NEVER ENDS: BEING THE BODY OF CHRIST The First Fruits<sup>1</sup>

## GATHERING: GETTING TO KNOW YOU

- 1. When was the first time you heard about Jesus' resurrection?
- 2. What did you understand and what questions did you have about it?

#### **GROWING: GOING DEEPER**

Reflecting on the message: *The First Fruits* that Pastor Young Sun shared with us.

Read 1 Corinthians 15:12-20.

- 1. How do you understand the idea of "resurrection"? What do you think are some common misunderstandings of resurrection? [That resurrection is the same as reincarnation; our souls escape the body at death; immortality of the soul; resurrection happened only to Jesus, etc.]
- 2. Why do you think the concept of resurrection from the dead was controversial to Paul's audience? Why do you think it is debated even today?

Paul's point in verse 19 suggests that Christ's resurrection gives hope for this life and the next. We often focus on the hope of eternal life.

- 1. How does Christ's resurrection also give hope for the life we live here and now?
- 2. How is our hope connected to Jesus' resurrection?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Rev. Dr. Derek Weber, Love Never Ends: The First Fruits, Discipleship Ministries, Nashville

3. Why do you think Paul is so insistent that our faith is futile (v. 17) without the resurrection of Christ?

### **GOING: TAKING IT HOME**

Read Exodus 23:14-20. Notice the repetition of the phrase "first fruits."

- What does the phrase "first fruits" refer to in this passage about annual festivals of the Israelites? (If you have time, you might also read <u>Leviticus</u> <u>23:1</u>, <u>9-22</u>.)
- 2. How is Christ "the first fruits of those who have died" (v. 20)?
- 3. How might our belief in Jesus' resurrection be the bedrock of our faith?

<u>Memorization Verse</u> <sup>20</sup> But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. 1 Corinthians 15:20

**Sending Prayer**: God of Resurrection, because of Jesus' death and resurrection, we can trust that there is nothing that will separate us from your love. We give thanks for your faithfulness and the hope we have for this life and the next. Help us to be resurrection people. Help us to see all things through the eyes of faith. Amen.

Prayer Requests:





#### Growth Group Community Service Project

We ask every group to take on at least one service project a year (the ideal is two) and to have at least one social gathering (potluck) per half a year. Please consider with your group members of what community service you'd like to participate in. There is a project list made by our church that you can join in and outside the church.