



Week I
6 - 12 November 2022

ORDINARY TIME



THE LECTORY (6 - 26 NOVEMBER 2022)

**SMALL GROUP WEEKLY
DEVOTIONAL MATERIAL**

CONTENT:

Weekly:

Sunday sermon Bible readings,
Worship song,
Reflection,
Small group questions,
Family time.

Daily:

Memory verse,
Prayer.

BIBLE READINGS

Haggai 1:15b-2:9
Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21
Job 19:23-27a
Psalm 17:1-9
2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17
Luke 20:27-38

Week 1 - 6 November - All Intimacies Will Be with God

Week 2 - 13 November - Watch Out for Doomsday Deceivers

Week 3 - 20 November - Skull Hill

WEEK 1: 6 November

All Intimacies Will Be with God



Luke 20:27-38 The Message All Intimacies Will Be with God

²⁷⁻³³ Some Sadducees came up. This is the Jewish party that denies any possibility of resurrection. They asked, "Teacher, Moses wrote us that if a man dies and leaves a wife but no child, his brother is obligated to marry her and give her children. Well, there once were seven brothers. The first took a wife. He died childless. The second married her and died, then the third, and eventually all seven had their turn, but no child. After all that, the wife died. That wife, now—in the resurrection whose wife is she? All seven married her." ³⁴⁻³⁸ Jesus said, "Marriage is a major preoccupation here, but not there. Those who are included in the resurrection of the dead will no longer be concerned with marriage nor, of course, with death. They will have better things to think about, if you can believe it. All ecstasies and intimacies then will be with God. Even Moses exclaimed about resurrection at the burning bush, saying, 'God: God of Abraham, God of Isaac, God of Jacob!' God isn't the God of dead men, but of the living. To him all are alive."

WORSHIP SONG:



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jgsqfjRslzA>

Hillsong- I Surrender

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION WRITTEN BY:

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Luke chapter 20 can be referred to as the second temptation of Jesus. In this chapter the Pharisees and Sadducees pose questions at Jesus in an attempt, to catch him out. First, they question him on the authority he has to perform miracles (verse 1-8). Secondly, they try to trap him by asking who they should pay their taxes to (verse 19-26). Thirdly they pose a question about the resurrection. The questions the Sadducees pose to Jesus was intended to place him squarely in the political and religious landscape of his day. The Sadducees' preoccupation was political rather than religious and they had no axe to grind with Jesus. However, they were prompted to get in on the act with their religious counterparts, the Pharisees, not realizing that no-one could outsmart Jesus, least of all them with their superficial knowledge of the Scriptures. There was an existing dispute between the pharisees and the Sadducees. The pharisees believed in resurrection and the Sadducees rejected the notion of the resurrection of the dead. In his response Jesus aligned himself with the pharisees, but his comment took it beyond what they believed.

The question they pose to Jesus is hypothetical and their intention is to show that resurrection is nonsense. Their question is based on Deuteronomy 25:5-10. If a man dies childless, it is the responsibility of his brothers to impregnate his widow and the child born will be counted as the deceased husband's descendant. The Sadducees posed a literal



claim and imagined a confusion in eternity when all seven brothers could potentially claim this woman as their wife. They make an assumption that life in resurrected body will involve sexual relationships as we know them now. The problem in their question was also that none of the woman's seven husband fathered a child with her, ultimately none of them had any special claim to her. In his response Jesus tells them that the resurrection will be different from this life. The resurrection of the dead will not continue this world and its life arrangement. But it's a life of a completely

different order. He describes how eternal life will be like. His explanation says we will be like angels in a sense that we do not die and that we will no longer need legal protections like marriage contract.

Paul writes further about Jesus' explanation in I Corinthians 15:53 "For our dying bodies must be transformed into bodies that will never die; our mortal bodies must be transformed into immortal bodies."

Jesus made it clear that marriage was only for this life because, when a husband and wife learn to live together in unity, they will have a foretaste of the ecstasies and intimacies of unity with God in the life to come. Marriage is a picture of the real thing and will fall away when the real thing happens.

We need to live our lives with the desire to be intimate with God in this life and when we are resurrected those intimate moments will continue in eternity.

Life Application

The message of the resurrection is not only about what happens after we die, it matters how we treat our bodies and those of others now. Whenever we contribute life to others, we work with God's resurrection life and when we make someone else's life poorer, we oppose God's resurrection. Take a moment and recognize God's life in everyone you meet and bless them. Seek out some way to serve all people by loving them in a way that best leads to life. Take time to spend with God as an intimate time of connecting with God.

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

1. What assumptions do you have about life after the resurrection of the dead?
2. How can you look at other people through the lens of resurrection today and honor their dignity and freedom?
3. How can you open your life to God's resurrection today?
4. In what ways do you keep intimacies with God in this life and what hopes do you have about intimacy with God in a resurrected life?



DAILY MEMORY VERSE AND PRAYER

DAY	VERSES	PRAYER
MONDAY	Psalm 98:4 “Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth, burst into jubilant song with music;”	Holy and almighty God great are your deeds amongst us. We praise you and shout praises to your name. we praise you for goodness, love, and faithfulness in our lives. Amen
TUESDAY	2 John 1: 6 “And this is love: that we walk in obedience to his commands. As you have heard from the beginning, his command is that you walk in love.”	Lord thank you for being the light of this world. Shine your light upon every area of darkness in our lives so that we may walk in your love, for the glory of your holy name. Amen
WEDNESDAY	Zechariah 8:12 “The seed will grow well, the vine will yield its fruit, the ground will produce its crops, and the heavens will drop their dew. I will give all these things as an inheritance to the remnant of this people”	Thank you, Lord, that you are the source of all that is good. You are the provider and sustainer. Because of you we have all we need in Jesus's name. Amen
THURSDAY	Romans 1:25 “They exchanged the truth about God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised. Amen.”	Heavenly father, teach us to stay faithful to the call on our lives to serve. Help us not to fall to idolatry in Jesus's name. Amen
FRIDAY	2 Thessalonians 1:12 “We pray this so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.”	I pray today that you shine your light on others and bless those who face challenges in this life. Let you grace fill our lives in Jesus's name. Amen
SATURDAY	Isaiah 59: 21 “As for me, this is my covenant with them,’ says the Lord. ‘My Spirit, who is on you, will not depart from you, and my words that I have put in your mouth will always be on your lips, on the lips of your children and on the lips of their descendants—from this time on and forever,’ says the Lord.”	Lord thank you for your everlasting covenant with us. Thank you for the Holy Spirit that dwells in us and helps us in times of need. Help all of us to continually seek your guidance, to trust that you are with us all the time. Amen



BY JENNY BLAKE – CHILDREN’S PASTOR
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Scripture reading: Luke 20:27-38

Have you ever been tricked? Like maybe someone pranked you or got you to believe a tall tale. How did it feel when you realised you were tricked?

People tried to trick Jesus too, by giving him complicated questions. But Jesus was smart and did not give a straightforward answer of yes or no. he did this so these people could not make fun of him, by telling other how he wrongly answered them. Jesus talked about a more important point of their question he spoke about how God is with us and loves us *right now* because God is the God of the living, not of the dead.

- Jesus' answer is important because it helps us to remember that God cares for each of us very much *right now*
- This is one of the reasons why we come to church, go to children's church, do family devotions and pray: So that we can get to know God better *right now*.
- And, as we know God better, it means that we can pay attention to God's help, love, and healing *right now*. we can then **share** God's help, love, and healing with those around us *right now*.
- So, instead of waiting until we die to experience God's kingdom, we can experience God's kingdom *right now AND* share it with those around us – just like Jesus did!
- And, that's a much better thing to share with others than trying to trick them.