**Cell Group Bible Study**

**The First Letter to the Corinthians**

**Introduction**

Welcome to the start of our church’s sermon series and cell group bible study on the Book of First Corinthians! We will be embarking on this journey for next five months from July till November.

*Why study First Corinthians?*

1. As part of our vision of ‘**Rebuilding God’s House’** for the year, this letter is a very helpful New Testament teaching on not only personal but corporate seeking of God’s will for us.
2. The Corinthian church faced issues which we can relate to and identify with. We can learn to adopt God’s perspective to the issues we are facing.
3. Many teachings and doctrines are crucial to build our understanding of our faith and hope in God’s coming kingdom

*What is a suggested cell group and bible study format?*

1. You can incorporate the elements of the **4 W’s** for your cell meeting: **Welcome** (personal thanksgiving), **Worship** (songs), **Word** (bible study) and **Works** (prayer for each other and upcoming events of the church).
2. Each of the bible study will consist of three elements:
	1. **Introductory question** for discussion (related to the focus of the bible study)
	2. **Discussion question(s)** based on the passage
	3. **Possible application(s)** in daily life
3. You may not include all of the elements in a single cell group session but please don’t ignore any of these elements over the longer term.

*What can be helpful for cell members to be more involved?*

1. Everyone should try to read the bible passage and prepare for the questions beforehand
2. Cell members can be rostered to lead in the various elements within the cell meeting: welcome, worship, bible study or prayer
3. In smaller groups, cell members can keep in touch with one another about how they have been applying the lessons learnt in the sermon/bible study throughout the week. You can also ask cell members to share and update about their previous week’s resolution that they have set for themselves.

*What is helpful for you as a cell leader to have a fruitful meeting?*

1. Keep your cell group meeting and your members in prayer throughout the week
2. Encourage everyone to share and thanks them for sharing – there are no wrong answers and each opinion should be valued
3. Look to affirm what your members are sharing – especially about how God may be speaking or leading them in their lives
4. Feel free to stop at any point to elaborate more if the Spirit is leading you to – **you don’t have to complete all of the discussion questions**
5. Look to end every meeting in prayer committing everyone and the week ahead to God’s blessing and keeping

**Cell Group Bible Study (6 Nov)**

**1 Corinthians 15**

**Theme – Hope in the Future Resurrection**

Key Verse: *“For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive.”* 1 Cor 15:22

***A. Introductory Question***

1. Share about the best ending you have ever watched in a movie or read in a book. Why was it such a particularly good ending for you?

***B. Discussion Questions***

**[Read 1 Corinthians 15:12-19]**

Denying the resurrection implies that Christ has not been raised and therefore faith is futile, God is misrepresented, Christians remain in sin, and the dead cannot be raised.

1. What was the wrong concept that some of the Corinthians had which the Apostle Paul was writing against? From the passage, why is the belief in a possible future resurrection is so crucial to the Christian faith?

**[Read 1 Corinthians 15:20-26]**

Just as Adam’s death prefigures the death that all human beings will experience, so Christ’s resurrection leads the way for all who are in him to experience the same resurrection. In this way, Christ destroys death forever and delivers the kingdom to the Father.

1. What is the assurance given by Paul that we as believers will experience resurrection from the dead in the future? How is this assurance effective?

**[Read 1 Corinthians 15:35-49]**

At the resurrection, God will give to us a new spiritual body. Our spiritual bodies will be far superior to our natural bodies.

1. What do verses 35-37 tell us of the process we must go through in order to receive the new spiritual body? Why is it worth going through such a process?

***C. Application***

Throughout the bible God’s people are encouraged to hope primarily in God’s future kingdom.

Hebrews describes the heroes of faith as people who “acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth’ and that “they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one.” (Heb 11:13-16)

1. Is your future resurrection body the best possible ending for your life on earth? Why or why not?
2. How can we balance between trying our best in our lives on earth to strive for success and yet place our hope primarily on God’s future heavenly kingdom at the same time?

*For further personal reflection*:

1. Examine your own life carefully. In what ways have you “placed all of your bets” on this life? Let the Holy Spirit lead you to change your perspective to hope in his future kingdom, and also to look forward to living in it in your new spiritual body.