



Death

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Focus The Good News—the gospel—changes everything. It brings good news out of things that once represented only bad news—even death. The gospel is the Good News that Jesus conquered death, hell, and the grave.

Fun What is the best advice anyone has given you? How has it affected you?

Review Key Scriptures: John 8:21–24; 1 Thessalonians 4:13; Ecclesiastes 3:1–4

1. Part of death is bad news.

Death is bad news because once your life on earth is over, it is too late to decide to follow Jesus. Unbelievers who die are forever separated from God and those they love, but believers who die know they will go to heaven.

2. Part of death is sad news.

It is normal to be sad when someone passes away, but believers can still have hope when they grieve. The Bible says there is a time to weep, a time to grieve, and a time to mourn. It's okay to be sad and cry. When Jesus saw His friends weeping after Lazarus died, He wept. Jesus was angry at Satan, the one who brought death into the world, so He destroyed him.

3. Part of death is Good News.

Physical death and spiritual death entered the world after Adam and Eve sinned. Regret is another result of sin and death, and Satan uses regret to torment people. Regrets can cause you to second guess or blame yourself. Don't let the devil beat you up over things left unsaid or undone. The gospel is the Good News that Jesus overcame death, hell, and the grave. And because of this, death for believers means entering into the presence of our loving heavenly Father for all eternity!

Group Dynamics Idea Creating a relational group means helping your group members move from meeting to connecting to feeling a sense of belonging with each other. New people may be hesitant and think they are invading the community you have already established, so actively reassure them that they are welcome in your group.

Discuss

1. Read Psalm 90:12. How do you think learning to number our days gives us hearts of wisdom?
2. Death is bad news if you don't know Jesus. How does this truth motivate you to share your faith with others?
3. If you knew you only had one week to live, who would you call and what would you tell them?
4. Read 1 Thessalonians 4:13. What is the difference between grieving when you have no hope of eternal life versus having the hope of eternal life?
5. Why is it important for us to grieve over the loss of loved ones? How does grieving bring healing, and what happens if we don't allow ourselves adequate time to grieve?
6. What are appropriate ways you can prepare for the day you physically die? Are there people you need to make things right with or people who need to know you love them?
7. What is the Holy Spirit saying to you through this message?

Take Home

As we conclude, remember the following:

- Death is bad news for those who don't know Jesus.
- Death is sad because we are separated from those we love.
- Death is good news when it unites us in heaven with Jesus.

Prayer

Heavenly Father, help us to have a healthy and realistic perspective of death. Help us to live in a way that has eternal value. Please show us how to tell others about the salvation that only comes through Your Son, Jesus. And help us give ourselves grace to grieve over loss, knowing it is a normal and healthy thing to do. We want to live every day with eternity in mind. In Jesus' name, Amen.

New Leader Tip Keep all problems and prayer requests that have been shared with you confidential unless you have first received permission to share them with others.