

MARCH 3, 2024

IS THERE LIFE AFTER DEATH?

Pastor Roger Poupart // Mark 12:18-27



PREPARE YOUR HEART & MIND

Begin this time in prayer, confessing any sins you can recall, thanking the Lord for the gift of His Word, and asking for His Spirit to guide you in your time.



18 Some Sadducees (who say that there is no resurrection) came to Jesus, and began questioning Him, saying, 19 "Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man's brother dies and leaves behind a wife and leaves no child, his brother should marry the wife and raise up children to his brother. 20 There were seven brothers; and the first took a wife, and died leaving no children. 21 The second one married her, and died leaving behind no children; and the third likewise; 22 and so all seven left no children. Last of all the woman died also. 23 In the resurrection, when they rise again, which one's wife will she be? For all seven had married her." 24 Jesus said to them, "Is this not the reason you are mistaken, that you do not understand the Scriptures or the power of God? 25 For when they rise from the dead, they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven. 26 But regarding the fact that the dead rise again, have you not read in the book of Moses, in the passage about the burning bush, how God spoke to him, saying, 'I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'? 27 He is not the God of the dead, but of the living; you are greatly mistaken."



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GROW IN THE WORD

- How would you describe the attitude and mindset the Sadducees had when they approached Jesus, and what dangers does that type of attitude pose? See also Psalm 10:4 and Proverbs 21:4.

- What beliefs about life, death, and the world do you struggle to allow Scripture to change?

02. Jesus responded to the Sadducees by immediately pointing out a mistake in their understanding of the Scriptures and of the power of God. Though he knew it was a test, he answered their question about marriage in the afterlife anyway. Then, he refuted their disbelief in the resurrection by referring to God's words to Moses in Exodus 3 (v. 24-27).

- How does Jesus' reference to Moses illustrate the power of God and the reality of life after death for those who exercise faith in God? See Luke 20:34-38; Exodus 3:6.

GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Pray to begin your group time. Remind the group why you are meeting: to connect in meaningful relationships, to grow spiritually, and to engage in the life and work of the church together. Reflect on the values you want to share as a group (i.e. confidentiality, authenticity, grace).

CONNECT (30-40 MIN)

You can use these suggestions to foster connection and build community in your group. You can break your group into smaller parts if needed, pick a question to discuss, and let each member get to know one another.

- Spend a few minutes catching up with one another. Share highs and lows since you last met.
- Discuss the second question Reflect/Connect section of the passage guide and give each person a chance to respond. Also, consider general beliefs expressed in popular culture.

GROW (30-40 MIN)

Gather back as a big group if you broke up earlier and have one person pray over your time discussing God's word. As you discuss, don't worry if there are questions left unanswered or unresolved. Reach out to ministry leaders or pastors for any needed clarification.

- Select 2-3 questions from each section. Pick questions that stand out to you, or that you believe would be most helpful for your group.
- Read any cross-references together and discuss.

ENGAGE (30-40 MIN)

Reflect on the biblical truth God revealed to you this week and discuss a plan of action to apply what you have learned. Gather in smaller groups of 2-4 again. Discuss your plan of action and pray for one another.

- Spend time reflecting on the last question of the passage guide. Pray and invite God to lead as you discuss application together.
- Close the group time by sharing prayer requests and praying for one another.