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GROUP STUDY GUIDE

Life After Death Part 2: What is Death

Use with the full teaching and a Bible. Read or watch first, complete the questions, then discuss and apply. For family study, an adult can select suitable portions and accept spoken answers.

Test the teaching's explanations against the cited passages. Keep the answer key and facilitator notes separate when distributing learner pages.

[Open the full teaching](#)

Teaching summary

Part 2 defines death by returning to the creation account. Adam is formed from dust and later told that he will return to dust. The teaching understands physical death as the end of conscious human life until God raises the dead.

The lesson follows Part 1's distinction between the living person and the spirit that gives life. Ezekiel speaks of a soul or person dying, while Ecclesiastes says that the spirit returns to God. The teaching therefore rejects the claim that the soul must be an independently conscious, immortal part of a person.

The Bible also calls physically living people dead in sin and describes believers as having passed from death to life. The teaching connects these descriptions with the outcomes promised to each group. Context must tell us whether death refers to physical death, life under condemnation, or final judgment.

Yeshua promises both to raise believers on the last day and to give eternal life. The lesson understands his promises of never dying in relation to deliverance from the second death. Believers may still experience physical death, but their hope rests in the resurrection he promises.

The teaching reads Yeshua's description of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob as living in the context of his argument for resurrection. It understands their future life as certain because of God's promise, rather than treating the passage as proof that they are already consciously living in heaven.

The final contrast is between sin's wages and God's gift. Yeshua died for our sins and rose again, so those united with him can share in his resurrection. Obedience and love express living faith; they do not purchase the grace and eternal life that the lesson attributes to Messiah.

Summary points

- Genesis 3:19 describes death as returning to dust.
- The teaching reads soul language as referring to a person who can die.
- The spirit returns to the God who gave it.
- A physically living person can be described as dead in sin.
- God makes believers alive with Messiah by grace.
- Love for fellow believers is evidence of passing from death to life.
- Yeshua joins his promise of eternal life to resurrection on the last day.
- The first resurrection frees its participants from the power of the second death.

- The teaching understands the second death as final, with no further resurrection.
- Eternal life is God's gift through Yeshua, not the wages of our achievements.

Fill in the blank

Use the teaching and the cited Bible passages. Equivalent wording is welcome when it expresses the same meaning.

Basic

1. Genesis 3:19 says that a person returns to _____.
2. Ezekiel 18:4 says that the soul who sins shall _____.
3. Ecclesiastes 12:7 says that the _____ returns to God.
4. Ephesians 2:5 says that we have been saved by _____.
5. Yeshua promises to raise the believer on the _____ day.
6. Revelation 20:6 says that the second death has no power over those who share in the _____ resurrection.

Challenging

1. In 1 Timothy 5:6, a self-indulgent widow is described as dead even while she _____.
2. First John 3:14 identifies love for the _____ as evidence of passing from death to life.
3. In Romans 8:2, the law of the Spirit of life frees believers from the law of sin and _____.
4. The teaching reads God's description of the patriarchs as living in the context of the future _____.
5. In the lesson's interpretation, there is no later resurrection after the _____ death.
6. Romans 6:23 contrasts sin's wages with God's free gift of _____ in Messiah Yeshua.

Group discussion

Discuss respectfully and support answers from the passages. Use these lines for brief notes or a notebook for longer responses.

1. How does returning to Genesis help us understand this lesson's definition of physical death?

2. Why must we distinguish physical death from being dead in sin?

3. How does the lesson connect Yeshua's promise of eternal life with the second death?

4. How does the setting of Yeshua's conversation with the Sadducees affect our reading?

5. How can we describe obedience and love without implying that we earn eternal life?

6. What kind of comfort can we offer from resurrection hope without making claims about a particular person's final judgment?

Answer key

For the leader or parent. Answers follow the teaching and the passages. Accept equivalent wording that expresses the same meaning.

Basic

1. dust

Genesis 3:19

2. die

Ezekiel 18:4

3. spirit

Ecclesiastes 12:7

4. grace

Ephesians 2:5

5. last

John 6:44, 54

6. first

Revelation 20:6

Challenging

1. lives

1 Timothy 5:6

2. brothers (also: fellow believers)

1 John 3:14

3. death

Romans 8:1-2

4. resurrection

Matthew 22:29-32; Part 2 discussion

5. second

Part 2 second-death discussion; Revelation 20:14-15

6. eternal life

Romans 6:23

Facilitator notes

These responses give direction for discussion. They are not a test of identical wording. Invite participants to explain the passages and consider a faithful practical response.

1. Genesis joins creation from dust with the warning of death and the return to dust. The teaching reads that reversal as unconscious death awaiting resurrection. The textual sequence and the teaching's conclusion should be identified separately.

Genesis 2:7, 15-17; 3:19; Job 34:14-15

2. A person can be physically alive yet described as dead because of sin and condemnation. Ephesians then attributes being made alive to God's mercy and grace. Failing to distinguish these uses can make passages appear contradictory.

1 Timothy 5:6; Ephesians 2:1-5; Romans 8:1-2

3. It reads the promise that believers will not die alongside the promise that they will be raised. Physical death may occur, but the second death has no power over those in the first resurrection.

John 6:44-58; 8:51-53; Revelation 20:6

4. The dispute concerns resurrection. The teaching understands God's relationship to the patriarchs as guaranteeing their future life. We should test that reading within the full exchange rather than isolate the phrase God of the living.

Matthew 22:23-32; Romans 4:17; Hebrews 11:39-40

5. Eternal life is God's gift through Yeshua. Love and obedience show the direction of living faith, while Ephesians grounds rescue in grace. The distinction helps us avoid both self-reliance and treating faith as unrelated to conduct.

Romans 6:23; Ephesians 2:1-5; 1 John 3:14

6. We can speak of Yeshua's victory and promise, acknowledge grief, and leave individual judgment to God. No participant needs to disclose a loss or evaluate a deceased loved one's faith for the discussion to be useful.

Romans 6:5, 23; John 6:44; Part 2 conclusion

Put it into practice

Choose one response to the passages. What will we do, and when will we revisit it? Share only what you are comfortable sharing.