

From the Nicene Creed:

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

Going deeper

To understand Jesus's death and resurrection we need to look to the Old Testament. One classic passage to consider is Isaiah 52:13-53:12.

5. Isaiah 52:13-15 describes contrasting reactions to God's servant. How was this reflected in Jesus's ministry?
6. Compare Isaiah 53:3,9 with Mark 15:25-32, 42-46. What are the connections?
7. What different words are used to describe our sin and guilt in Isaiah 53:4-6? What has God done with them?
8. Read Isaiah 53:10-12. How do these verses point to the resurrection? What do they say that the Son's work achieved 'for us'?

Now turn over and do 'Applying it to our lives'.

Growth Teams

**Week Beginning
Sunday 1st February 2015**

Growth Teams

Growth Teams are a wonderful opportunity to go deeper with other Christians. They are a great place to build real friendships and support networks, to pray for one another and to look more carefully at the topics we consider on a Sunday.

We are looking at the Nicene Creed. Last week we looked at what it had to say about who Jesus is: the Son of God. This week we turn to look at the Son's work: what He has done for us.



**Growing in Christ
to glorify God
and enjoy Him forever.**

We believe in the Son

1 Corinthians 15:1-8 (pg. 1155)

Space to take notes on the talk

❖ **The Son's work and** _____

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Starter question

- ❖ What is the kindest thing anyone has done for you in the last week?

Responding to the talk

1. What do you think is the most important point to have come out of this week's talk?
2. Look at 1 Corinthians 15:1-4
 - a. How do we know the gospel matters to Paul, the writer?
 - b. Why is the gospel important to the readers and us?
 - c. What is the message of the gospel?
 - d. Was it just Paul's gospel? (cf. vs. 11)
 - e. What does it mean to 'hold firmly' to the gospel?
3. Look at 1 Corinthians 15:5-8
 - a. Which of the four appearances mentioned do you personally find most convincing?
 - b. Does it matter that the resurrection actually happened? (cf. vs. 17-18, 32)
4. Look at 1 Corinthians 15:9-11
 - a. Why does Paul call himself, 'the least of the apostles'?
 - b. How was God's grace demonstrated in Paul's life story?
 - c. Why did God's grace lead to Paul working so hard for Christ? (cf. Luke 7:36-50).

If there is time, you may like to do the 'Going deeper' questions over the page. Otherwise please just jump to questions 9 and 10.

Applying it to our lives

9. How can we find ways to talk more about Jesus and less about church, when people ask us about our faith?
10. A Christian friend says, 'It's not what you believe that makes you a Christian, it's how you live your life.' How would you respond?