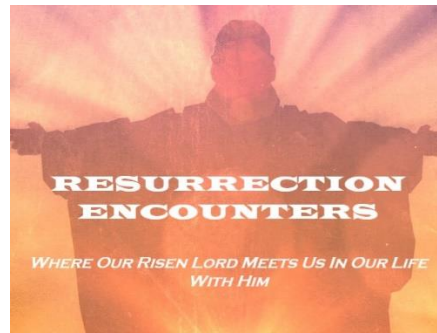


MORE THAN THE MESSAGE

(FOR PERSONAL, GROUP OR FAMILY STUDY)



“Resurrection Encounter...in the Church” (5-8/9-2021)

(John 15:9-17)

1. What is your favorite thing about the Church? Be as specific as possible in your answer.
2. Read John 15:9-17. What is something that sticks out for you from this passage? Why?
 - a. According to this passage, do we obey God’s commandments to *get* His love or because *He* loves us? Explain your answer, including using relevant verses from this passage.
 - b. Is Jesus contradicting Himself with verse 15 and John 13:13-17?
 - c. What does Jesus mean by “I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit” in verse 16? Cf. Acts 13:47, 1 Timothy 1:12, 2:7 and 2 Timothy 1:11.
3. Verse 17 has been a challenging verse (even as it became a popular campfire song!). Why do you think this verse might be challenging? How might 1 John 5:1-5 actually make this verse *more* challenging? How could 1 John 5:1-5 actually make this less challenging, even freeing?
4. The Church is where we “love one another as I (Jesus) have loved you.” What characterizes this love? How can this be a “blessing”, rather than a “burden”?