

"That's true," he replied kindly. "What comfort do you have to offer the grieving family?"

She was speechless for a few moments, and then she said, "You're right. At least you have Jesus."

Sooner or later someone dear to us will die, and we'll want to be comforted. A hug, a kind deed, shared tears, and the presence of a friend may ease sorrow's pain just a bit. But these gestures won't answer our most urgent questions: What's beyond the grave? Where is the person now? Will we be reunited in heaven? How can I have the assurance of eternal life?

For the answers to those questions, we must look to Jesus Christ. He is the One who defeated sin and death by dying on the cross for us and rising from the grave (1 Corinthians 15:1-28,57). Because He lives, all who put their faith in Him will live forever with Him (John 11:25).

When a believer in Christ dies, we who are left behind can find comfort and confidence in Him. So let's keep talking about Jesus. —DDH

*We have hope, for Christ has risen,
Death was conquered by God's Son;
May we gently share that message
With some hurting, grieving one. —DDH*

In life and in death, our only hope is Jesus.



Central Mountains Baptist Church

MARCH 27, 2016

Keep Talking About Jesus

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live." —John 11:25

Pastor Eloy Pacheco said at a funeral for a believer that Jesus is the only lasting source of comfort. Afterward a woman came up to him and said, "You preachers are all alike. All you talk about is Jesus, Jesus, Jesus!"





I Peter: Overcoming Suffering Alive in the Spirit

(Job 42:3) "... Things too wonderful for me, which I did not know."

(Psalms 139:6) "Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; It is high, I cannot attain it."

(1 Corinthians 2:9-10) "But as it is written: 'Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him.' {10} But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God."

1 Peter 3:18 and 1 Peter 4:6 lead us to make two statements about the wonder of eternal life:

1. The Spirit _____,

(Romans 3:11-12) "... There is none who seeks after God. {12} They have all turned aside; ...; There is none who does good, no, not one.""

(2 Corinthians 5:21) "For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him."

(John 19:32-35) "Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who was crucified with Him. {33} But when they came to Jesus and saw that He was already dead, they did not break His legs. {34} But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately blood and water came out. {35} And he who has seen has testified, and his testimony is true; and he knows that he is telling the truth, so that you may believe."

(John 5:21) ""For as the Father raises the dead and gives life to them, even so the Son gives life to whom He will."

(John 6:63) ""It is the Spirit who gives life; ..."

(John 3:3-7) "... 'Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.' {4} Nicodemus said to Him, 'How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?' {5} Jesus answered, 'Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. {6} 'That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. {7} 'Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.'"

(John 3:16) ""For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."

(2 Corinthians 5:8) "We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord."

(Romans 8:9) "... Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His."

(Acts 2:38) "... 'Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.'"



2. The Spirit _____,

(Romans 1:3-4) "concerning His Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who was ..., {4} .. declared to be the Son of God with power according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead."

(Luke 23:43) "... 'Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise.'"

(Hebrews 7:15-16) "... another priest arises according to the likeness of Melchizedek, {16} who has become such ... according to the power of an indestructible life." [NASB]

(John 10:17) "... I lay down My life that I may take it again."

(1 Thessalonians 4:16-18) "For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. {17} Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. {18} Therefore comfort one another with these words."

(1 Corinthians 15:51-54) "Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed; {52} in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. {53} For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. {54} So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: 'Death is swallowed up in victory.'"

(Romans 8:11) "But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you."

(1 Corinthians 15:57-58) "But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. {58} Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord."



New Orleans 'Saints'