

SERMON NOTES

1 Corinthians 15:29-34 (NRSV) | Written by Rev. Dr. Alf Halvorson

Use the questions below to reflect personally and to encourage honest conversation as a group. You don't need to answer every question, choose a few that fit your time. As you discuss, notice where Paul challenges our assumptions, where the culture pressures our thinking, and where the promise of Christ's resurrection offers comfort and courage for real life.

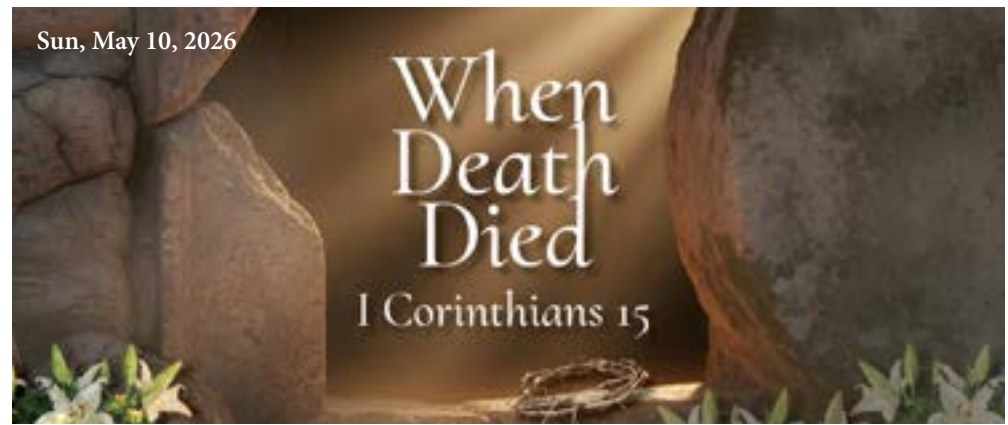
1. Where have you been surprised by the idea that following Jesus can include suffering or social pressure? What does "a cross before the crown" look like in your life right now?
2. Paul warns that "bad company ruins good morals." What voices (people, media, workplace norms, friend groups, habits) most shape the way you think about faith, death, and the future? What helps you "sober up" spiritually?
3. In 1 Corinthians 15:29, what do you think is the best explanation for "baptized for the dead" among the options presented? Why might Paul mention it without fully endorsing it?
4. What does the resurrection change about how we face loss, fear, or uncertainty? Where do you most need the hope of resurrection to move from theory into practice?
5. In the story about Marty, what part stood out to you most: his question about treatment, his concern for his family, or the John 14 promise? Why?
6. What would it look like for you to "trust Christ with that today"—specifically (a decision, a fear, a relationship, a grief, or a situation you can name)?

Financial Update as of May 3, 2026

2026 Annual Budget	\$ 14,728,728
Actual Income to Date	4,765,410
Needed to Meet 2026 Budget	9,963,318

MDPC 11612 Memorial Drive, 77024 | mdpc.org | 713.782.1710

Sun, May 10, 2026



Approaches to Prayer

Thursdays through May 21 | 10:15am | Amphi.
Join Rev. Beth Case for simple, guided approaches to prayer that help you engage with God in real, personal, and consistent ways. Men and women welcome! Details and RSVP: atp.mdpc.org

Dad Vibes

Next Sun, May 17 | Right after 9:45 service
Join us for a laid-back time to connect with other dads while the kids run, play, and burn off some energy on the Elementary Playground. No agenda, no pressure—just good conversation, new connections, and a chance to build community with other guys in the same season of life. dadvibes.mdpc.org

Wednesday Night Summer Bible Study

Wed, Jun 10-Jul 1 | 6:30-7:30pm | Summit Room
Our Wednesday-Night Summer Study is back! We'll spend the first two weeks in Jude with Dr. Laurien Hook, followed by two weeks in Jonah with Dr. Clay Brown. Whether you've studied these powerful and often-overlooked books before or are coming to them for the first time, this will be a rich opportunity for learning, discussion, and fellowship.

Ladies Slice of Summer

Sweet summer opportunities to seek Jesus, find friendship, and love others! Childcare available for all events. Event registration: slice.mdpc.org
STUDY: Wed, June 17-24 | 10-11:30am | Parlor
Join Pastor Beth Case as we dig into Colossians while learning different methods of study.

SERVE: Fri, Jun 19 | 1-3pm | Child Advocates
We'll serve MDPC ministry partner, Child Advocates by helping organize their Christmas Closet!

SOCIAL: Thu, Jun 25 | 6-8:30pm | Summit Rm
You're invited to Game Night! Laughter, friendly competition, and light bites.

H-Town Fellows at MDPC

Sep 2026-May 2027 | Wednesdays at 6pm
If you are a professional ready to seek God's purpose for your career, apply to be an H-Town Fellow today. H-Town Fellows trains Christians to live the gospel coherently across vocation, community, and culture. With questions or for scholarship information, reach out to Joshua Smith at jsmith@mdpc.org. Find more details and apply at fellows.mdpc.org.

MDPC
POST-GRAD
COMMUNITY

Back in Houston after college?
Want to reconnect with MDPC friends?
Join us for fellowship and Bible study!

TUESDAYS, STARTING MAY 12 - 7-8:30PM

Register: postgrad.mdpc.org

VA YOUNG ADULTS
MDPC

PACK THE FUENTE
FOOD PANTRY
MAY 1-18
fooddrive.mdpc.org

Most-Needed Items:
Canned Spaghetti / Ravioli
Canned Tuna & Chicken
Canned Mixed Vegetables
Canned Fruit Cocktail
Peanut Butter
Boxed Cereal
Mac and Cheese
Ramen Packets

Drop off donations at the Front Office or Parlor tables.

Scan for convenient giving via the Amazon Wish List!



 **Online Giving** give.mdpc.org

 **All Events** events.mdpc.org



8:30 BLENDED SERVICE

GATHERING

Call to Worship	Beth Case
*Songs of Praise	<i>Holy Forever Who You Say I Am</i>
Confession & Assurance	Riley McDaniel
Affirmation of Faith from Faith New City Catechism for Kids	
Prayer	Beth Case
Worship Song	<i>Goodness of God</i>

HEARING THE WORD

Message	When Death Died 1 Corinthians 15:29-34 (NRSV) Alf Halvorson
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RESPONDING

Offertory	<i>The Blessing</i>
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SENDING

*Benediction	Alf Halvorson
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9:45 CONTEMPORARY SERVICE

GATHERING

*Call to Worship	Meliza Gómez
*Songs of Praise	<i>God So Loved Holy Forever</i>
Baptism	Alf Halvorson Jana Lee Lakenmacher, daughter of Daniel and Kristina Lakenmacher
*Worship Song	<i>Who You Say I Am</i>
Confession & Assurance	Kelsi and Emily McCormack
Affirmation of Faith from Faith New City Catechism for Kids	
Welcome	Beth Case
Worship Song	<i>Goodness of God</i>

HEARING THE WORD

Message	When Death Died 1 Corinthians 15:29-34 (NRSV) Alf Halvorson
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RESPONDING

Offertory	<i>The Blessing</i>
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SENDING

*Benediction	Alf Halvorson
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Blended and Contemporary Worship Leaders

MDPC Worship Team: Uvaldo Callejas, David Cavazos, Asher Pudlo, Will Story
Michael Middleton, Generational Worship Director | Meliza Gómez, Contemporary Worship Director

*Please stand, if comfortable.

As you enter worship, we kindly ask that you silence your cell phones.

11:15 TRADITIONAL SERVICE

GATHERING

Prelude	<i>Andante Moderato</i>	Frank Bridge (1879-1941)
Call to Worship		Rachel and Hallie Poysky
Choral Introit	<i>Awake My Heart</i>	Jane Marshall (1924-2019)
*Hymn of Praise	<i>Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!</i>	Vs. 1, 2, 4 #138 NICAEA
Confession and Assurance of Pardon		Dan and Madison Aikins
*Affirmation of Faith from Faith New City Catechism for Kids		
*Congregational Response	<i>Take My Life</i>	Vs. 1,5 #391 HENDON

HEARING THE WORD

Anthem of Preparation	<i>I Am Not My Own</i>	Craig Courtney (b. 1948)
Message	When Death Died 1 Corinthians 15:29-34 (NRSV)	Alf Halvorson

RESPONDING

*Hymn of Response	<i>Come, Christians, Join to Sing</i>	Vs. 1, 3 #150 MADRID
Baptisms	Jett Richard Elias, son of John and Rebecca Elias Charlotte Nicole Kerl, daughter of Cameron and Lauren Kerl	Alf Halvorson
Offertory	<i>Rise Up and Call Her Blessed</i>	Pepper Choplin (b. 1947)

SENDING

*Doxology	<i>Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow</i>	#592 OLD 100TH
*Benediction		Alf Halvorson
Postlude	<i>Minuet in Classical Style</i>	C. Armstrong Gibbs (1889-1960)

Traditional Worship Leaders
MDPC Sanctuary Choir | Kathryn White, organist/pianist
Charles Hausmann, Traditional Worship Director

Our pastors are here to help. They'd love to hear from you!



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Beth Case
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Remember Our Frontline Mission Partners

MDPC partners in local and global ministry truly covet your prayers! Find out this week's prayer recipients by picking up the prayer booklet available around campus or visit partners.mdpc.org.