

GETTING STARTED:

- 1) Think of a time when you were bothered by a bully. In what ways did this person have any power?
- 2) Why does society try to avoid thinking or dealing with death?

MESSAGE BIG IDEA: “I Really Believe - Victory over death.”

MAIN SCRIPTURE: 1 Corinthians 15:25-26, 55-58

DISCUSSION

- 1) Why do tyrannical governments use death or the threat of death as a means of control?
- 2) (**Read 1 Corinthians 15:55-58**; How can Paul say, “*death, where is your sting*” based upon verse 55?
- 3) Do you know of any religion that is based on their leader having experienced both sides of death?
- 4) (**Read Philippians 1:20-21**) How could Paul have such a flexible attitude about death in the Philippians passage?

DIG DEEPER

- 1) (**Read 2 Peter 3:9 & Revelation 6:9-11**) Why is it that God doesn't just stop death now?
- 2) How do you respond to the martyrs who cried out, “*how long?*” in Revelation 6?
- 3) (**Read Ecclesiastes 7:2**) Why is it better to be at a funeral than a party according to Solomon?

BRING IT HOME

- 1) How can you better focus on the promise, like Paul who said “*to live is Christ; to die is gain*”?
- 2) How can you comfort someone who may be confronted with loss or even the subject of death?

ASK FOR GOD'S HELP

- 1) Where or how do we need to pray to help you cope with a death and or live with resolve that death have no victory or “sting” for you, because of Jesus?
- 2) (**Revelation 22:20-21**) How can you look forward to Jesus' promise to come soon, or is that difficult for you to pray?