

## Community Group Discussion Guide

## Week of August 14, 2016

This Week's Focus: Did God really say that? - "When You Die, God Gains Another Angel"

"But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death." 1 Corinthians 15:20-26

## **Observations and Questions for Discussion:**

- What are your general impressions about this week's sermon topic?
- Have you heard someone use the phrase, "When you die, God gains another angel."? What do they mean by that statement?
- Genesis tells us that humankind was created in the image and likeness of God ("Imago Dei"). Reference Genesis 1:26-31. What are some attributes or characteristics that we have in common with God? What are attributes of God that he does not share with us? How has sin distorted the "Imago Dei?" Discuss the following examples of the Imago Dei and some practical implications for godly and missional living: dignity, value and worth; morality; spirituality; physicality.
- What are angels, and how do they serve God? Reference Luke 2:6-14; Genesis 19:13; Isaiah 6:2,6; Luke 16:22; 2 Kings 6:17; Luke 22:43; Matthew 25:31; 1 Thessalonians 4:16; Jude 9. How are they like us, and how are they different than us? Name some ways that are angels good examples for us to emulate.
- When you die, do you become an angel? Reference Matthew 22:30-33.
- What does the Bible say about what happens to a believer's soul after death? Reference 2 Corinthians 5:8, Philippians 1:21-24; Luke 16:19-31. Discuss how the Roman Catholic doctrine of purgatory is unbiblical and anti-gospel. Do our souls "sleep" after death?
- As Christians, what is our future hope? Reference Romans 8:23-24; 1 Corinthians 15:20-28. How does this truth encourage you to declare demonstrate the gospel in your community and spheres of influence?