

May 1, 2022

Dear Parents,

"The last enemy to be destroyed is death." (1 Corinthians 15:26)

Have you ever seen one of those cartoons where heaven looks like a bunch of people in white dresses, sitting on clouds playing harps?

Or have you known someone who believed in reincarnation?

Have you noticed how many movies assume people who die become angels?

Those are some of the common ideas people may have of what happens to us after we die, but none of them matches what the Bible teaches us about the future.

The Bible makes it clear that we will have real bodies after the resurrection - that the bodies we have now are kind of like the seeds or precursors of what we will become. Your soul doesn't leave your body when you die and float off to heaven - instead, Jesus promises that we will be raised to life like he was - with bodies like his that can be touched and can eat food.

Why does that matter? Because it tells us our bodies are not evil. They may be weak or have illnesses or give us trouble, but they aren't bad. God loves and saves our whole selves, body and soul together.

That's especially important for students to know, when so many teens feel awkward in their bodies or even feel like they hate their bodies. We need to help our kids accept themselves - including their physical selves.

Parent Action: Talk to your teen about your own teen years. What did you like and dislike about yourself? How did that change over time?

This Sunday: Morning worship service will be at 10am in the sanctuary. Student Group will meet outside after worship in the courtyard for games, donuts, and Bible study.

Prayer: *"Dear Father, thank you for my body. Thank you for the bodies you have given our children. Please help all of us accept ourselves as we hope for the perfect bodies you have planned for our future. Amen."*

In Christ,
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