



**Of First Importance: Ascended & Reigning  
(1 Corinthians 15:35-58)**

1. As you think back over your journey through Holy Week this year, has there been one thought, theme, Scripture, story or gathering which has been particularly significant?
2. Share what you know about the ascension of Jesus. Do you recall ever hearing a sermon on the theme?
3. Read 1 Corinthians 15:35-58 and Acts 1:6-11. Does anything strike you from these texts (the first is implicitly references the ascension, the latter is explicitly about the ascension)?
4. What thoughts/ideas do you have about what your heavenly/resurrection body will be like? Does it really matter? Discuss.
5. Although the cross is central to the message of Easter, why, do you think, is it important that it does not stand alone (i.e. without the empty tomb, the ascension, and/or enthronement of Christ)?
6. What are the implications of Jesus' words to Mary in John 20:17? What did Jesus mean?
7. Put yourself in the shoes of the disciples in Acts 1:6-11. How important was this moment in their journey of faith? Discuss their reactions. Had Jesus given them any clues in his earthly ministry that this moment would happen?
8. Discuss the events which happened within the early church after Jesus' ascension. How do these events inform or challenge your responses in Q7? If Jesus had not ascended, could he have sent his Spirit in Acts 2?
9. Read Hebrews 1:3, Matthew 26:64 and John 16:7. What do these verses tell us about the link between the ascension and Jesus' power and authority today?