

Suffering, reincarnation and resurrection

A Bible study for Buddhists from 1 Peter 1

This Bible study is a discussion starter, not a discussion finisher! Use it to begin thinking about how the resurrection might make a difference to your life.

1. Does death bring an end to human suffering? How do you know? *(You may like to compare the views of Buddhists, Christians, atheists or other world views.)*

One of Jesus' disciples was a man named Peter. Jesus taught Peter and his other disciples about his own suffering, death and rising to life. Later, Peter wrote to people who were themselves going through suffering. Take a moment to read what he says.

Read 1 Peter 1:1–9.

2. What does the word 'resurrection' mean in verse 3? *(Compare 1 Corinthians 15:3–11.)* How is this different to reincarnation?
3. Look at verses 3–5. What has Jesus' resurrection achieved for those who trust him? How is this different to what reincarnation achieves?
4. Look at verses 6–7. According to these verses, what is the point of suffering? Do you agree? Why or why not?
5. What does Peter teach about what lies in the future? How is this different to what you believe? How is it the same?
6. What does Peter teach about who Jesus is, what he has done and what he will do?
7. If Jesus is going to be revealed (verse 7), what is the best way to respond to him?