

Walking by Faith Into the Presence of Jesus (FOREVER part 3)

April 3, 2022

FBC MISSION: Seeking to honor God by developing fully devoted followers of Jesus who love, live, and share Him.

Text: 2 Corinthians 5:1-10

Introduction:

Big Idea: Confidence about FOREVER is tied to your beliefs and actions today.

1. You can look forward to FOREVER...

- Because you'll receive your FOREVER _____ (2 Corinthians 5:1)
- Because you'll be done _____ FOREVER (2 Corinthians 5:2-4a)
- Because _____ will be swallowed up by _____ FOREVER (2 Corinthians 5:4b)
- Because it comes with a FOREVER _____ (2 Corinthians 5:5)
- Because finally you'll be at _____ with the _____ FOREVER (2 Corinthians 5:6,8)
 - **Courage or confidence comes from being convinced of something.**
 - "being present with the Lord" has always been the _____ of Godly people
 - Hebrews 11:8-10
 - The greatest aspect of this reality is the _____ with whom you'll be living
 - What about _____ or soul sleep?
 - Some people believe that there is some intermediate state before one goes to heaven.
 - Purgatory is a false teaching. This passage is clear – to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord
 - The purpose of the intermediate state would be for some sort of purification.
 - Jesus died to pay the penalty for all of our sins (Romans 5:8, Isaiah 53:5)

2. Walking by _____, not by _____ is key to FOREVER (7)

- Faith is not an abstract, blind leap into the unknown darkness
- Biblical faith is a step into the light based upon what God has revealed is true of himself, the world, and life in the world (Hebrews 11:1-2)
- Biblical faith is the confidence you have in something or someone
- Illustration of the eye:

3. With a FOREVER confidence – we make it our goal today to _____ Jesus (9-10)

Truth into Action:

- The right view of FOREVER enables us to face trials, and even death, with courage.
- Faith is the confidence you have in the Person and Promises of Jesus.



Please understand we want to help you know Jesus personally and journey with you in taking fresh steps of obedience daily. We would love to pray with you and for you. Join us at the end of the service for prayer or send us your request on the Connect Card and we will lift them up throughout the week.

Table Talk

Warm Up: When you think about the reality of FOREVER, what comes to mind?

Is there any evidence in your life that you have slipped into living for today?

Why is hope for the future such a powerful motivator? Does it work like that for you? Why do you think that is? Why is it so important that we proclaim—and live—a gospel of hope in our comfortable world?

The judgement seat of Christ will also be a place of eternal reward for faithful believers. What kinds of reward should we expect? (Hint: see Matthew 25:21-23; 1 Corinthians 4:5; 1 Peter 1:4; 1 Corinthians 9:25-27; James 1:12; 2 Timothy 4:8)

How do you act knowing that someday you will stand before Christ and be held accountable for your actions?

What are 3 specific changes you need to make so that you can honestly say “My only goal is to please God?”

When have you been motivated and energized by an eternal perspective?

Closing Prayer: Father God, FOREVER is moving closer one day at a time. This week, help me to make decisions, use my resources of time and money that will count FOREVER!