

ANTICIPANTING FOREVER NOW (FOREVER PART 2)

March 27, 2022

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

Text: 2 Corinthians 5:1-5

Introduction:

Big Idea: Our life in this world is preparation for FOREVER. _____ !

You can look forward to FOREVER...

1. Because you'll receive your FOREVER _____ (1)

- *For we know that if the tent that is our earthly home is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.*
- Comparison Chart: My Current Body versus My FOREVER Body

2. Because you'll be done _____ FOREVER (2-4a)

- *For in this tent we groan, longing to put on our heavenly dwelling, if indeed by putting it on we may not be found naked. For while we are still in this tent, we groan, being burdened—*
- Even Jesus acknowledge that life is hard (John 16:33)
- There will be no physical _____ in FOREVER (Revelation 21:3-4)
- There is no struggle with _____ in FOREVER

3. Because _____ will be swallowed up by _____ FOREVER (4b)

- *... not that we would be unclothed, but that we would be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life.*
- God made people very unique. He made people with a spirit/soul and a body.
 - Animals = Body but no soul
 - Angels = Spirit but no body
 - God = Eternal self-existent spirit
 - People = Spirit/Soul plus body
 - Jesus = Eternal spirit (He is God) plus a body (He is man)
- We will not be ghosts floating around in some vast void somewhere. Instead, the eternal state will be even better than our temporary state now.
- **“When a believer exhales their last earthly breath, their next breath is to inhale life”**

4. Because it comes with a FOREVER _____ (5)

- *He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee.*
- A believer receives the Holy Spirit at the moment of belief or salvation (1 Corinthians 12:13, Romans 8:9, Ephesians 1:13-14)

- The gift of the Spirit to believers is a down payment on our heavenly inheritance, which Christ has promised us and secured for us at the cross.
 - It is because the Spirit has sealed us that we are assured of our salvation.
 - No one can break the seal of God.
 - Through the gift of the Spirit, God redeems, secures and sanctifies us.
 - The Holy Spirit produces in our hearts those feelings, hopes, and desires which are evidence that we are accepted by God (Romans 8:16)

Truth into Action:

- Take care of your physical body but remember your FOREVER body will be delivered.
- Thank God for the security we have in Him.



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?

1. What is the earthly tent Paul refers to in verse 1? Why does Paul call it a tent?
2. How would it be destroyed?
3. What does the eternal house in heaven refer to?
4. What are the differences between the tent and the building from God?
5. What does the phrase “we groan” show us about the attitude we should have toward this world?
6. What does verse 3 mean?
7. How can we understand Paul’s use of the metaphors “clothed” and “unclothed” and “naked?”
8. What purpose did God fashion us for (verse 5)?
9. How does the Spirit guarantee what is to come? Why is this important?

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!