

Offer Hope. Grow in Community. Be the Church.

## November 7, 2021 Corinthians 5:1-10: So We Make It Our Goal To Please HIM!

So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

(2 Corinthians 4:18)

How does Paul describe our different states?

- Temporary Tent:
- Eternal Building:

2 Corinthians 4:4-5

What will be "swallowed up" by life?

We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord. (2 Corinthians 5:8)

For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labor for me. Yet what shall I choose? I do not know! I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far; but it is more necessary for you that I remain in the body. (Philippians 1:21-24)

Going to Heaven is going to be great! But God decides when that time is. We do not! He gives life, and God takes it away on a day He has appointed. So, we should live with a focus on eternity, and in the meantime, we serve Him and our brothers and sisters while we are still here in this temporary tent.

## WE all must stand before the judgement seat!

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them. (Ephesians 2:8-10)

## And now...

So we make it our goal to please Him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it. (2 Corinthians 5:9)

How can you live a life pleasing to God today?

- Offer your whole life to Him.
- Do not conform to the world.
- Spend time with the Lord every day in the Word and prayer.
- Tell others about what Jesus has done for them.
- Encourage your brothers and sisters in the church.
- Grow spiritually in community.
- Care for the orphan, the widow, the hungry, the foreigner...
   (Make up your own)

## **HOME GROUP Questions for 2 Corinthians 5:1-10...**

- 1. What parallels can we draw from a tent and from a permanent house with regards to our earthly and heavenly body? Which one is more permanent? With this in mind, where should our focus be? In the obsession with our earthy bodies or the kingdom of God?
  - John 14:2-3
  - Philippians 3:21
  - 1 John 3:2
- 2. How can we reconcile verse 10 with the knowledge that believers in Jesus are forgiven from their sins and that He took our punishment already? Read the following passages and discuss why we can be confident as described in verses 6 and 8.
  - Galatians 3:13
  - 1 Peter 2:23
  - Hebrews 10:12
  - Romans 8:1
  - John 5:24
- 3. Since we can be confident that we are free from condemnation, what judgement is Paul referring to when he says we will all face judgement? Read the following passages.
  - Revelation 20:11-12, 15
  - 1 Corinthians 3:11-15