

**Gospel Partnership**  
*Hope in Suffering*  
**2 Corinthians 5:1-10**

**TALK IT OVER**

**Parallel Scripture**

<sup>13</sup> I think it right, as long as I am in this body, to stir you up by way of reminder, <sup>14</sup> since I know that the putting off of my body will be soon, as our Lord Jesus Christ made clear to me.

*2 Peter 1:13-14 ESV*

<sup>20</sup> as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death. <sup>21</sup> For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. <sup>22</sup> If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. <sup>23</sup> I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better.

*Philippians 1:20-23 ESV*

**Start Talking: Find a conversation starter for your group. (15 Min)**

- If you could change one physical element about yourself what would it be and why? What's some physical aspect of yourself that you are thankful God gave you?
- If you could go back to any age where you felt your best what age would that be?

**Head: Start Thinking. Ask a question to get your group thinking. (10 Min)**

- Was there any one thing that you most agreed with or disagreed with from last weekend's message? What was it and why?
- Read 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 5:1-10. What will be destroyed one day? Why is that ok? What will happen to it when Jesus returns?
- What do you think is happening to the Corinthians that Paul would write this to them?
- What kinds of suffering do we all face? How do we have hope in the midst of suffering?

**Heart: Start Sharing. Choose a question to create openness. (10 Min)**

- What do you look forward to the most in the new Creation?
- How will your life in the new Creation be different from here on earth? How might it be similar?
- How do you still have courage when you lose someone, or if you know you are about to lose them?
- Has there been a death in your life that was especially hard? What made it difficult, and how did you handle it?

**Hands: Start Doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week. (10 Min)**

- Who is someone you can comfort who is suffering right now?
- If you have a gift for listening, check out our Stephen's ministry here at our St. John's campus. Contact Linda Geiger at [linda.geiger@sjdenver.org](mailto:linda.geiger@sjdenver.org)

**Start Praying. Be bold and pray with power. (15 Min)**

- For suggestions on structuring prayer time, see the *Group Prayer Ideas* page in this packet.

**Trios: Split into same-gender groups of three. (15 Min)**

1. What's a passage of scripture that has impacted you this week? Read it to the group and explain why.
2. Is there anything God is leading you to repent of?
3. How's your weekly 3-2-1 challenge going? (*3 Conversations with New People, Learn 2 Names, Make 1 Meaningful Connection*)
4. Who is one non-believer that you need to reach out to this week?

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5. What's something you'd like someone else to check in with you about this week?
6. Pray for one another.