



Eternity Part 3
Pastor Jeremy McGarity

"I strain to reach the end of the race and receive the prize for which God is calling us up to heaven because of what Jesus Christ did for us."

PHILIPPIANS 3:14 | LB

"I've got my eye on the goal. God is beckoning us onward to Jesus. I am off and running and I'm not turning back.

Let's keep focused on that goal, those of us who want everything that God has for us."

PHILIPPIANS 3:14-15 | MSG

• IF YOU DON'T KNOW WHERE THE FINISH LINE IS, YOU EITHER

RUN A **FRANTIC** RACE OR A **FRUSTRATED** RACE.

I. WHY SHOULD I FOCUS ON HEAVEN?

1. FOCUSING ON HEAVEN **RESTORES** OUR HOPE IN
TIMES OF SUFFERING AND DIFFICULTY.

ROMANS 8:18

2. FOCUSING ON HEAVEN **REASSURES** US THAT GOD IS
IN CONTROL.

REVELATION 4:1-3

3. FOCUSING ON HEAVEN **REMINDS** US THAT THIS
WORLD IS NOT ALL THERE IS.

PHILIPPIANS 3:20

4. FOCUSING ON HEAVEN **REFOCUSSES** OUR MINDS AND
HEARTS ON THE NATURE OF TRUE TREASURE.

MATTHEW 6:19-21

5. FOCUSING ON HEAVEN **REIGNITES** OUR PASSION TO
SERVE THE LORD.

ISAIAH 6:1-8

*"Work willingly at whatever you do, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people."
COLOSSIANS 3:23 | NLT*

II. QUESTIONS ABOUT HEAVEN

1. HOW CAN WE ENJOY HEAVEN WHEN WE KNOW PEOPLE ARE IN HELL?

2. WHAT ABOUT BABIES AND CHILDREN?

3. WHAT ABOUT PETS?

III. HOW TO BRING THOUGHTS OF HEAVEN TO EVERYDAY LIFE

1. MAKE SURE YOU ARE GOING TO HEAVEN.

*"This is what God told us. God has given us eternal life and this life is in His Son. Whoever has the Son has life. But whoever does not have the Son of God, does not have life."
1 JOHN 5:11-12 | NCV*

*"I mean that you have been saved by grace through believing. You did not save yourselves; it is a gift from God. It is not the result of your own efforts, so you cannot brag about it."
EPHESIANS 2:8-9 | NCV*

2. REPLACE **ANXIETY** WITH THOUGHTS OF HEAVEN.

"So we're not giving up. How could we! Even though on the outside it often looks like things are falling apart on us, on the inside, where God is making new life, not a day goes by without his unfolding grace. These hard times are small potatoes compared to the coming good times, the lavish celebration prepared for us. There's far more here than meets the eye. The things we see now are here today, gone tomorrow. But the things we can't see now will last forever."

2 CORINTHIANS 4:16-18 | MSG

"Since you have been raised to new life with Christ, set your sights on the realities of heaven, where Christ sits in the place of honor at God's right hand. Think about the things of heaven, not the things of earth."

COLOSSIANS 3:1-2 | NLT

LB = LIVING BIBLE, MSG = THE MESSAGE TRANSLATION,
NLT = NEW LIVING TRANSLATION, NCV = NEW CENTURY VERSION.

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

- 1. What is one thing that stood out to you in this week's sermon and why?**
- 2. As a group, Read Philippians 3:14. Have you ever set a big goal for yourself (ie..run a marathon, climb a mountain, weight loss, etc.)? When you first started training, did you feel like you couldn't imagine getting to that goal? How did you achieve that goal? How did you discipline yourself to achieve it? Did you have a plan or did you just wing it?**
- 3. Pastor Jeremy talked about five reasons to focus on heaven. Review those five reasons as a group and share at least one that stood out to you.**
- 4. How can we be praying for you this week?**