

LIFE GROUP SERMON SUMMARY QUESTIONS

2 Corinthians Series

These questions are for the **July 22, 2018** sermon, "From Tent to House." Please read the sermon passage (2 Corinthians 5:1-10) together out loud.

Sermon Outline

AS WE CONSIDER OUR LIVES BEFORE DEATH, AT DEATH AND UPON CHRIST'S RETURN, NOTE . . .

1. The distinctions we should make (1)
 - a. Our earthly bodies are like a tent: temporary, portable, and somewhat fragile.
 - i. Jesus "pitched his tent" among us ("put on flesh") (John 1:14)
 - ii. Do not try to make your tent (body) into something that is permanent. It is not.
 - b. Our heavenly bodies are like a building: permanent, fixed and without decay (John 2:19)
 - i. We will dwell with Jesus Christ forever.
 - ii. Though Jesus' body was destroyed, he "rebuilt it" permanently (John 2:18-22)
2. The groanings we now experience (2-5)
 - a. As our bodies wear out, we groan within them.
 - b. Warren Wiersbe: We move from "Good" (creation) to "Groan" (fallen state; life in this world) to Glory (with the Lord).
 - c. Our God makes us strong to face death, or separation from the body.
3. The courage we can possess (6-10)
 - a. With eyes of faith, we look to the certainty of passing into the presence of Jesus Christ.
 - b. We would rather be at "home" with the Lord. This is our final destination.
 - c. Wherever we are (here or there), we make it our aim to please the Lord.

Life Group Discussion Questions

1. Based on #1, above: We live in a culture that wants to make earth into our permanent residence, and therefore worships longer life in this body. But the Christian understands that, while we care for the body it will eventually die. Discuss the tension between seeking health and understanding that our bodies are not permanent. How does faith impact attitude?
2. Based on #1, above: Jesus rose from the dead the third day, thus "re-building" the temple (John 2:18-22). Discuss what you are looking forward to the most moving from your temporary tent, into your permanent house with the Lord. Start with this: no decay (no sin more sin nature).
3. Based on #2, above: Your body is groaning. How does faith strengthen you to face groaning without complaining? How does faith make you strong to face death?
4. Based on #3, above: Would you describe the way that you face a weakening body as "courageous"? Why or why not? Paul said that we should make it our aim to "please the Lord" wherever we are. How can you please the Lord in your 20's? 30's? 40's? and when you face death and cancer? How might God use faith in the dying process to be glorified?
5. How can we pray for you?