

Sermon Discussion Questions
Ambassadors for Christ: Week 4
2 Corinthians 5:1-10

Here are some questions to discuss as you think about the message from 2 Corinthians 5:1-10.

1. What picture of eternity does Paul give us? How does he describe our heavenly existence compared to our earthly existence?
2. How does Paul describe the judgment seat? What questions does that raise for you? What is the difference between the criteria for salvation and the criteria for rewards? Read Ephesians 2:8-10, 1 Corinthians 3:10-18, 1 Peter 5:4, and Matthew 25:14-30 if you'd like more.
3. Is there any evidence in your life that you have slipped into living for today? What does that look like for you?
4. Think about C.S. Lewis' observation in *The Weight of Glory*: "It would seem that Our Lord finds our desires not too strong, but too weak. We are half-hearted creatures, fooling about with drink and sex and ambition when infinite joy is offered us, like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea. We are far too easily pleased."

In what ways are you stuck "making mud pies"? What does the "holiday at the sea" look like for you? Where does Jesus fit in your imagination?

5. Does it ever occur to you that God will talk with you through the details of your life with you one day? How do you react to that thought? Are you more afraid or hopeful as you picture that day? Why?
6. How have you been personally comforted, convicted, or challenged? Think about the message, your own reflections on God's Word, the work of the Holy Spirit, other people, and your experiences. What do you need from your small group or a trusted friend to help you process how God might be working in and through you?

Prayer

Father, thank you for promise of eternity with you. Thank you for the Holy Spirit, who gives us a glimpse of what is to come. Forgive me for the ways I am living only for today and not for eternity. Jesus, help me to see you more clearly and love you more fully. May my desires grow stronger, not weaker. My aim is truly to please you. Holy Spirit, fill

my heart with the joy that comes from knowing that I am a child of God now, in the midst of my pain and suffering. Give me a clearer vision, Father, for eternity in your Kingdom.