

GROUPS DISCUSSION GUIDE

Get Into The Word

Leader Edition



Week of Sunday April 27, 2025

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Living out our God-given calling as we follow Jesus and make disciples every day.

Introduction

We will explore the challenges we face living in our "earthly tent," as described in 2 Corinthians 5:1-10. Our bodies may show signs of wear-and-tear, and our souls long for a heavenly dwelling. We'll discuss how our faith, not sight, shapes our understanding of life and mortality. Together, let's pray for reminders that the afterlife surpasses this life, that spiritual strength outweighs physical might, and that our ambitions can align with holiness. Join us as we seek to live lives pleasing to God.

Disciple Measure

Force For Good: How does what you do on earth have eternal impact?

Discussion Questions

Longing for Our Heavenly Home

HIGHLIGHT

Have someone read aloud...

[2 Corinthians 5:1-10](#)

EXPLAIN

Discuss the following questions...

Opening Question: What do you think heaven will be like? Why?

1. The sermon mentions two problems we face. (Our bodies are showing wear-and-tear. Our souls are longing for more permanent housing.) How do you personally relate to these issues?
2. How does the imagery of "earthly tents" vs. "eternal dwellings" impact your view of your current life and the afterlife?

Have someone read aloud [Philippians 3:20-21](#).

3. What does it mean to be a citizen of heaven?
4. What does it look like to be transformed into the image of Christ?
5. How does the idea of the Holy Spirit as a "down payment" affect your understanding of God's promises?
6. What does it mean to you to "walk by faith, not by sight"? ([Hebrews 11:1](#))
7. What does it mean to be repaid for what we did in these bodies, whether good or evil?

Notes:

Discuss the following questions...

- ## RESPOND

Check out opportunities to bring the kingdom to your community today [here](#).



Prayer:

Heavenly Father, thank You for the hope we have in Christ. Help us to live with eternity in mind, walking by faith and striving to please You in all we do. May our ambitions be pure and holy, guided by Your Spirit. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Questions for Families

Here are some questions you can discuss with the whole family.

2 Corinthians 5:1-10

What do you think it means when the passage talks about an eternal dwelling in the heavens?

For younger children, discuss the idea of a forever home with God that is special and different from what we have now. For older kids, delve into how it represents hope beyond our current life.

What do you think it means to walk by faith, not by sight?

Encourage younger children to think about trusting in God even when they can't see Him. For older children, discuss how faith can guide decisions and actions in daily life, even amidst uncertainty.

What can we do each day to make God happy, whether we are at home or away?

With younger kids, talk about simple acts like kindness and prayer. For teens, explore broader concepts like making choices that honor God's teachings and showing love to others in everyday situations.

NT 260

WEEK: 18

- 2 Corinthians 8
- 2 Corinthians 9
- 2 Corinthians 10
- 2 Corinthians 11
- 2 Corinthians 12

MEMORY VERSE: Matthew 5:36-37

Resources

Resources to Listen to

BEMA - Apostleship



Marty Solomon dives into the context and message of [2 Corinthians](#).
(19 min)

Resources to Watch

Bible Project Guide - 2 Corinthians



The Bible Project gives an in-depth [overview through 2 Corinthians](#) with multiple resources and videos.
(9 min)

New Testament Letters: Literary Context



The Bible Project gives the [literary context of Paul's letters](#).
(5 min)

Life Group Resources

We have a variety of resources and are continually adding new ones. Some of our resources include group launch guides, on-demand training modules, and curriculum resources. To request a resource, reach out to us at groups@longhollow.com.

D-Group Resources

If you or someone you know would like to start a D-group, we have everything you need, including reading plans, journals, and a launch guide to walk you through the first four meetings.



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Commentary

Notes:

What’s Going On?

In 2 Corinthians 5:1-10, the Apostle Paul is writing to the Christian community in Corinth. This passage is part of a larger letter, which is often seen as one of Paul's more personal and emotional correspondences. Here, Paul is explaining how believers should view life and death. He uses powerful imagery of tents and buildings to make his point. The "earthly tent" represents our temporary, fragile human bodies, while the "building from God" symbolizes an eternal, heavenly body that awaits believers after this life.

Paul acknowledges that life on Earth is full of groaning and burdens, but emphasizes that there's so much more beyond this life. This idea is wrapped up in the phrase "walking by faith, not by sight." Paul wants the Corinthians to understand that faith is about trusting in God's promises, even if we can't see them clearly right now. The core message is comfort and hope—that even when things are tough, there’s a future with God that far surpasses our current struggles. This assurance should guide how believers live their lives, prompting them to focus on things that are pleasing to God, regardless of where they are.

Biblical Timeline



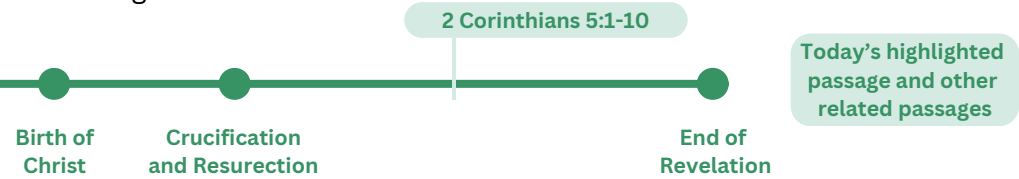
A Bit of Background

During the time Paul wrote this letter, Corinth was a bustling city, rich with culture and trade, but also full of influences that could distract from Christian teachings. The believers in Corinth faced many challenges, much like what believers face today. There were internal disagreements and outside pressures, and Paul wrote to guide them back to core Christian values.

Paul's imagery of tents would be familiar to his audience. Tents were common, practical, temporary shelters for nomadic people or travelers. Corinthians would understand that tents, while useful, aren't meant to last forever. Similarly, the concept of an eternal, sturdy building from God taps into a desire for permanence and security—something everyone can relate to.

Paul is also addressing concerns about death. In those times, just as now, people were anxious about what happens when life on Earth ends. Paul reassures the Corinthians that death isn't the end. There's a judgment where everyone will appear before Christ to account for their lives, which might sound scary, but for believers, it's part of the hope and eternal life promised by God. Through this, Paul encourages the community to maintain faith and live righteously, focusing on eternal rewards over the temporary challenges of life.

Notes:



Sermon Notes

2 Corinthians 5:1-10 CSB

For we know that if our earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal dwelling in the heavens, not made with hands. Indeed, we groan in this tent, desiring to put on our heavenly dwelling, since, when we are clothed, we will not be found naked. Indeed, we groan while we are in this tent, burdened as we are, because we do not want to be unclothed but clothed, so that mortality may be swallowed up by life. Now the one who prepared us for this very purpose is God, who gave us the Spirit as a down payment. So we are always confident and know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord. For we walk by faith, not by sight. In fact, we are confident, and we would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord. Therefore, whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to be pleasing to him. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may be repaid for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.

(Get digital notes on your mobile device at notes.longhollow.com)

Living out our God-given calling as we follow Jesus and make disciples every day.

Spirit-Led Follower

A disciple who walks with Jesus daily, anchoring their lives to God's Word and obediently following the Holy Spirit where He leads.

Intentional Friend

A disciple who is always looking for ways to care for others and meet their needs. This is a practical way to be present in the lives of those around us.

Humble Guide

A disciple who is a humble guide takes every opportunity to help people take their next step closer to Jesus. This is someone who is constantly looking for opportunities to have Gospel conversations and speak truth into someone's life.

Force For Good

When a disciple lives out their God-given calling, they naturally become a force for good where they live, work, and play. This type of person is looking for opportunities to meet needs, heal brokenness, and bring tangible hope to the people in their life and in their community.



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