

Courage for Your Ministry: Learning from the Pattern of Paul

Lesson #1 – God Is in This, **So Don't Give Up** (2 Corinthians 4:1-6)

Lesson #2 – God Will Keep Us Forever, **So Don't Give Up** (2 Corinthians 4:7-18)

Lesson #3 – Our Longings Will Be Met, **So Keep Looking Up** (2 Corinthians 5:1-5)

A. We _____ that we will receive a new _____. (5:1)

* How do we know this?

- 1 Corinthians 2:9-16 – The mind of Christ has been revealed to us in the Scriptures:
- Job 19:25-27 – *“I know that my Redeemer lives... I know... I shall see God”*
- Daniel 12:2 – *“those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake”*
- John 5:24-29 – *“the dead will hear... and those who hear will live”*
- John 14:1-6 – *“In My Father’s house are many mansions... there you may be also”*
- 1 Corinthians 15:20-58 – *“we shall all be changed... put on immortality”*
- 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 – *“God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus”*

* How is this knowledge applied in 2 Corinthians?

- 2 Corinthians 4:14 uses this knowledge to draw our attention to two things:
 1. We will be with _____.
 2. We will be with _____.

* How is our current body described in 2 Corinthians?

- “_____ vessels” (4:7) – made of dust
- “mortal _____” (4:11) – destined to die
- “_____ man” (4:16) – a shell, which holds the “inner man”, which is perishing
- “earthly _____” (5:1) – which houses the real you, the “inner man”
- “_____” (5:1) – meant to be temporary

* How is our future body described in 2 Corinthians 5:1?

- “a _____... a _____” – permanent, compared to the temporary tent of our current body
- “from _____... not made with hands” – it is given by God as a gift
- “_____” – fit for everlasting life
- “in the _____” – fit to dwell with God in God’s home, where we were meant to be.

B. We _____ to receive our new _____. (5:2-4)

*Key words:

- “_____” (*stenazō*) – to sigh deeply, to groan or sigh often
- “_____” – (*epipetheō*) – to yearn after with desire, with intense longing

* Where do we groan?

- “in _____” (5:2) – referring to the word “tent” in 5:1
- & “in this _____” (5:4)

* Why do we groan?

- “earnestly desiring _____ with our habitation which is from heaven” (5:2)
- “we shall not be found _____” (5:3)
- “_____, not because we want to be unclothed” (5:4)
- “but [burdened because we want to be] _____” (5:4)
- “that mortality may be swallowed up by _____” (5:4)

C. It is God’s _____ for us to _____ about our future body and _____ for it. (5:5)

* What two things has God done, according to verse 5?

1. God “has _____ us for this very thing.”
2. God “has _____ to us the guarantee of the Spirit.”

God has revealed certain things about the future that every believer can anticipate. He has promised eternal life to all who believe in Christ as the Savior from Hell; He has given His Spirit as a guarantee of glory. God has done all of this so that we will live our lives today with a happy hope.

In giving us a glimpse of our future, God has equipped us with fuel for an eternal perspective which allows us to face each day of our ministry with courage.