



B Group Study Guide

Week of April 7, 2013

“What Happens When I Die?”

Message – “At Home with the Lord”

Primary Scripture: 2 Corinthians 4: 16 – 5: 10

Additional Scripture & Reading

James 4: 14
Revelation 20: 10 & 22: 5
Philippians 1: 21-24
1 Corinthians 15: 32
2 Timothy 4: 9-16
Ephesians 1: 18-21

Here are some general ideas, themes, and questions for this study to use at your discretion -

This is a new series based on the “Easter Resurrection Season” – the 40 days from Easter to Pentecost Sunday.

It is based on a question many of us have heard asked: “What happens when we die?”

Those of us who are Christians believe we go to heaven, but what “actually” happens at death?

In this series, we hope to answer a few questions. These are:

- What happens at the moment of death?
- What happens when Jesus returns?
- What happens at the judgment?
- Where is the final place we will be for eternity?

In addition, the question of “what happens when we die” leads to some deeper questions I hope come up in your group. Questions such as:

Do we truly have a biblical worldview of our lives here on earth and for eternity? Or, is our faith just a cushion for the here and now? (look at James 4: 14)



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Do we love the world we live in more, or do we love God more?
How can we live a radical life for Christ in the midst of suffering?
Can we say, like Paul, “to live is Christ and to die is gain?” (Philippians 1: 21)

This series is also focused for believers in Christ. However, it is the hope that it will convict un-believers to surrender to Jesus. (John 14: 6)

The bottom line: we want our church to look and see in Scripture so they can be assured of what will happen at their deaths and not lose heart at any of the pains of life.

It is easy to lose heart. Paul could have. He faced severe physical and emotional sufferings – from the loss of friends to the pain of getting old. He states this in:

2 Corinthians 4: 14 and more so in – 2 Timothy 4: 9–16

Yet Paul points us to “unseen glory” in 2 Corinthians 4: 17 and more so in Ephesians 1: 18–21.

For his life, Paul gives us his preference:

- 1) He would rather not go through death, and be on earth when Jesus returns and have His body transformed into the heavenly state.
- 2) Second, he’d rather die and be with the Lord. At the moment of death, Christians are with the Lord.
- 3) And last, he will stay and do the work he is called to do, laboring for fruit for the Kingdom. (Philippians 1: 21–24)

Studying this topic (eternal life) it convicts us if we really have a ‘biblical worldview of death and eternity.

- 1) Do we long for the second coming?
- 2) Do we long to be “at home with Christ” even if it means giving up our earthly bodies?
- 3) While we wait for glory, can we “walk by faith, not by sight?”