Set Your Eyes On Eternity

Our context: Paul and the early church were experiencing great trials and tribulations. They were being attacked and persecuted for their faith. They did everything in Jesus name and for his glory. The world hated that! The same thing happens to Christians today, and maybe to you this morning.

Passage for the Day: 2 Corintios 4:13-15 “Pero teniendo el mismo espíritu de fe, conforme a lo que está escrito: Creí, por lo cual hablé, nosotros también creemos, por lo cual también hablamos, sabiendo que el que resucitó al Señor Jesús, a nosotros también nos resucitará con Jesús, y nos presentará juntamente con vosotros.

Porque todas estas cosas padecemos por amor a vosotros, para que abundando la gracia por medio de muchos, la acción de gracias sobreabunde para gloria de Dios.”

1. Our Faith
   1. We all faith in something or someone. We all believe something.
   2. Thumbs up, thumbs sideways, thumbs down:
      1. Do you believe in God?
      2. Do you believe that all men and women are sinners?
      3. Do you believe that the penalty for sin is eternal death, apart from God?
      4. Do you believe that Jesus is God?
      5. Do you believe that Jesus came to earth?
      6. Do you believe that he died on the cross, paying for our penalty of sin?
      7. Do you believe he is risen?
   3. 1 Corinthians 15:3-4 “For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:”
      1. 1 Corintios 15:3-4 “Porque primeramente os he enseñado lo que asimismo recibí: Que Cristo murió por nuestros pecados, conforme a las Escrituras; y que fue sepultado, y que resucitó al tercer día, conforme a las Escrituras;”

**Aplicación en Acción: Cuando alguien crea en estas cosas y acepte el regalo de salvación de Dios, tiene una promesa de aflicción y tribulaciones.**

**Application in Action: When someone believes these things and accepts God’s gift of salvation, there’s a promise of trials and tribulations.**

1. 2 Corinthians 4:13 “We having the same spirit of faith, according as it is written, I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and therefore speak;”
   1. 2 Corintios 4:13 “Pero teniendo el mismo espíritu de fe, conforme a lo que está escrito: Creí, por lo cual hablé, nosotros también creemos, por lo cual también hablamos,”
   2. How do we speak according to our faith?
      1. First way to speak according to our faith:
         1. When we are experiencing trials and tribulations…
            1. Psalm 116:3-6 “The sorrows of death compassed me, and the pains of hell gat hold upon me: I found trouble and sorrow. Then called I upon the name of the LORD; O LORD, I beseech thee, deliver my soul. Gracious *is* the LORD, and righteous; yea, our God *is* merciful. The LORD preserveth the simple: I was brought low, and he helped me.”

Salmo 116:3-6 “Me rodearon ligaduras de muerte, Me encontraron las angustias del Seol; Angustia y dolor había yo hallado. Entonces invoqué el nombre de Jehová, diciendo: Oh Jehová, libra ahora mi alma. Clemente es Jehová, y justo; Sí, misericordioso es nuestro Dios. Jehová guarda a los sencillos; Estaba yo postrado, y me salvó.”

We call on God for comfort, help, and the fruit of his spirit in the midst of hard things, believing he will comfort, help, and his spirit will work in and through us.

* + 1. Second way to speak according to our faith:
       1. In every season of life, good or bad, easy or hard…
          1. Psalm 116:12-14, 17-18 “What shall I render unto the LORD *for* all his benefits toward me? I will take the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of the LORD. I will pay my vows unto the LORD now in the presence of all his people….I will offer to thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and will call upon the name of the LORD. I will pay my vows unto the LORD now in the presence of all his people,”

Salmo 116:12-14, 17-18 “¿Qué pagaré a Jehová Por todos sus beneficios para conmigo? Tomaré la copa de la salvación, E invocaré el nombre de Jehová. Ahora pagaré mis votos a Jehová Delante de todo su pueblo….Te ofreceré sacrificio de alabanza, E invocaré el nombre de Jehová. A Jehová pagaré ahora mis votos Delante de todo su pueblo, ”

Because of how good God is, we give him thanksgiving and praise through the good times and the bad times.

**Aplicación en Acción: Cuando alguien tenga la fe y un corazón que le clama a Dios, esa fe también guiará a otros a Dios.**

**Application in Action: When someone has faith and a heart that calls out to God, they will also call others to God.**

1. 2 Corinthians 4:14 “Knowing that he which raised up the Lord Jesus shall raise up us also by Jesus, and shall present *us* with you.”
   1. 2 Corintios 4:14 “sabiendo que el que resucitó al Señor Jesús, a nosotros también nos resucitará con Jesús, y nos presentará juntamente con vosotros.”
   2. Do we know that Jesus will raise us up and present us before the Judgment Seat of Christ?
      1. 1 Corinthians 3:13 “Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.”
         1. 1 Corintios 3:13 “la obra de cada uno se hará manifiesta; porque el día la declarará, pues por el fuego será revelada; y la obra de cada uno cuál sea, el fuego la probará.”
         2. One day we will be raptured and we will stand before Jesus and give account for what we did with our new lives in Christ.
            1. If we serve God, if we preach Christ, if we invest the word of God into souls, the Judgment Seat of Christ will be full of rejoicing.
            2. If we serve ourselves, if we preach our personal opinions, if we invest all of our energy into our hobbies, the Judgment Seat of Christ will be shameful.
   3. How do we live on earth to have the Judgment Seat of Christ in heaven full of rejoicing?
      1. 1 John 2:28 “And now, little children, abide in him; that, when he shall appear, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before him at his coming.”
         1. 1 Juan 2:28 “Y ahora, hijitos, permaneced en él, para que cuando se manifieste, tengamos confianza, para que en su venida no nos alejemos de él avergonzados.”
         2. We must rest in God. We must walk with God each day. We must surrender our lives to God each day.
         3. It isn’t about how smart you are, how strong you are, how talented you are, or how beautiful you are. It is about abiding in Christ.

**Aplicación en Acción: Cuando alguien ponga la Palabra de Dios en su corazón y la obedezca en fe, puede tener la confianza que sus palabras, sus acciones, y sus vidas traerán gloria a Jesús aquí en la tierra y en el cielo.**

**Application in Action: When someone puts the Word of God in their heart and obeys in faith, they can have confidence that their words, actions, and life will bring glory to God here on earth and in heaven.**

1. 2 Corinthians 4:15 “For all things [these good things and bad things] *are* for your sakes, that the abundant grace might through the thanksgiving of many redound to the glory of God.”
   1. 2 Corintios 4:15 “Porque todas estas cosas padecemos por amor a vosotros, para que abundando la gracia por medio de muchos, la acción de gracias sobreabunde para gloria de Dios.”
   2. Why do we have to have trials and tribulations?
      1. Romans 8:28-29 “And we know that all things [these good things and bad things] work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to *his* purpose. For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate *to be* conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.”
         1. Romanos 8:28-29 “Y sabemos que a los que aman a Dios, todas las cosas les ayudan a bien, esto es, a los que conforme a su propósito son llamados. Porque a los que antes conoció, también los predestinó para que fuesen hechos conformes a la imagen de su Hijo, para que él sea el primogénito entre muchos hermanos.”
         2. God allows all things to happen to us because he uses the good and bad things to conform us to the image of his Son.
            1. Some things challenge our faith, some strengthen our faith. Some things confuse us, some bring us clarity. Some things make us cry, some make us sing.
         3. We are instructed to give thanks for all of these things...

Ephesians 5:20

* 1. Why do we have to be thankful for all things?
     1. God gives abundant grace through all situations, according to our faith.
     2. When we give thanks together for this grace, this brings glory to God.

**Aplicación en Acción: Como siempre dice el Pastor Sam, “Cuando Dios recibe la gloria, estamos benditos.”**

**!Demos gracias a Dios juntos y traigamos gloria a Jesús!**

**Application in Action: Like Pastor Sam always says, “When God is glorified, we are blessed.”**

**Let’s give thanks to God together and bring glory to Jesus!**