

Paul's Second  
Letter to the  
Corinthians

# FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMUNITY

*For we know that if the tent that is our earthly home is destroyed,  
we have a building from God, a house not made with hands,  
eternal in the heavens.*

*--2 Corinthians 5:1*

### Class Time

- Prayer Requests
- Scripture Reading – 2 Corinthians 5:1-10
- Discussion Questions
- Outline & Lesson

### 2 Corinthians 4:16–5:10 (ESV)

<sup>16</sup> So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. <sup>17</sup> For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, <sup>18</sup> as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.

<sup>5</sup> For we know that if the tent that is our earthly home is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. <sup>2</sup> For in this tent we groan, longing to put on our heavenly dwelling, <sup>3</sup> if indeed by putting it on we may not be found naked. <sup>4</sup> For while we are still in this tent, we groan, being burdened—not that we would be unclothed, but that we would be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. <sup>5</sup> He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee.

## 2 Corinthians

<sup>6</sup> So we are always of good courage. We know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, <sup>7</sup> for we walk by faith, not by sight. <sup>8</sup> Yes, we are of good courage, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. <sup>9</sup> So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. <sup>10</sup> For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.

## 2 Corinthians

### Summary Statement

Paul is confident that when he dies he will receive a better, eternal heavenly body, and he longs for that, knowing that he will not remain bodiless in eternity. God has prepared him for this and has given His Spirit as a guarantee, so that Paul does not lose heart while still in his earthly body but would rather be present with the Lord. Whatever state he is in, his intention is to please God, knowing that all will appear at the judgment seat of Christ to receive what is due for what they have done while in the earthly body.

### Discussion Questions

1. In v1, we see a comparison between an earthly home and a building from God. What do these two metaphors describe? Read these verses to gain some insight: 2 Peter 1:13-14; 2 Corinthians 4:7; Mark 14:58; Romans 8:23; 1 Corinthians 15:53-54

### Discussion Questions

2. In verses 3 and 4, Paul talks about not being “naked” and not being “unclothed” within the context of putting on our heavenly dwelling. What period of time might he be referring to? See also verse 8 and 1 Corinthians 15:52.

### Discussion Questions

3. Doesn't the bible teach that salvation has nothing to do with good works? So, what's up with v10 which says that all Christians will appear at the judgement seat of Christ to be examined for the things done during their life? see Matt. 6:20; Luke 19:17, 19; 1 Cor. 3:12–15; 1 Tim. 6:19; Rev. 22:12



**Key Verse**

Which verse(s) do you find to be the most helpful to you personally? Why?

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## Our Heavenly Dwelling

### I. An Earthly Home and a Heavenly Dwelling vv1-5

- A. A temporary tent v1(a)
- B. An eternal house v1(b)
- C. An earthly longing v2
- D. The intermediate state v3, 4(a)
- E. A glorious transformation v4(b)
- F. A gracious preparation v5

### II. Constant Courage and Earnest Desire vv6-10

- A. Staying encouraged v6
- B. Being away from the Lord v6
- C. Walking by faith v7
- D. Desiring the best v8
- E. Aiming to please v9
- F. Receiving what is due v10