

We can be instructed by Paul's faithful last words. (5-16)

- About the essence of an enduring life and ministry. (5)
- About the focus of our final moments. (6-8)
- About the reward and risk of relationships. (9-16)
- Recognition of the faithfulness of God. (17a)
- Reaffirmation of our mission in life. (17b)
- Reassurance of the Lord's power and protection. (17c – 18a)
- Resolve toward the promise and purpose of heaven. (18b)

We should be inspired by Paul's famous last worship. (17-18)

Sometimes our most powerful worship arises from our deepest pain, because God gives us grace to embrace a . . .

Discussion Starters:

Vs – 5

Can you recall and share a time in your life that was really but somehow you knew God was with you through it all? In what ways did you know God never left you? How did that strengthen your faith? If you could go back and remove that part of your life, would you? Or was it so transformational that after being through it, you see how you needed it?

Vs – 6-8

In what way do you remind yourself that this world is not the scorecard, but that your eternal reward is in heaven? How do you keep your eyes focused on finishing the race well each and every day?

Vs – 9-16

How have the hardest times in this life, grown your ability to worship? How have the people in your life helped you walk through hard times? What are ways you could walk with others through their hard times?

Vs – 17-18

In what ways do you believe God to be using you to reach others in your family, at work or in your neighborhood? If the gospel came to you, because it was headed toward someone else, how can you continually be on mission with Jesus and for Jesus? What are some of the distraction that the enemy brings into your life to keep you from constantly being on mission? What are some steps you can take this week to limit distractions and focus on obeying the mission and mandate of Jesus Christ?