

Living by Heaven's Hope

SERMON NOTES AND DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

I. Introduction

- a. Philippians 3:7-16
- b. The Secret of Life: Aim past it!

II. Understand the Secret of Pressing on ...

- a. Knowing the goal isn't enough
- b. Keeping our eye on the goal

III. What is the real goal? Knowing Christ Jesus my Lord.

IV. Seeing Jesus with our Hearts: Hearing His Spirit's Voice

- Earth is only a shadow: Don't Settle for Less
- No eye has seen, no ear has heard: Eternity is more ...
- No more chaos: Stand against Chaos
- No more tears, or mourning, or pain, the old order of things has passed away: You are forgiven.

V. Conclusion: All the way to heaven is heaven

Discussion Questions

Sharing Life Together

1. What things do you find to be discouraging?
2. Who, if at all, have you been inspired by the prize of eternity with Jesus?

Reflecting on the Message Together

1. Read Philippians 3:7-16. What stands out to you about this passage?
2. Even though Paul was focused on winning the prize for which God has called him heavenward in Christ Jesus, do you think he made the world around him a better place? Why or why not?
3. When you imagine eternity, what are the three most important aspects of your picture? Do they inspire you or do they deplete you? How confident do you feel your picture of eternity will match with what the Bible says? How could you pursue growing in the biblical teaching of Eternal life?
4. What is your overall reaction to the four images of heaven - Earth is a shadow; No eye has seen, no ear has heard; No more chaos; No more tears, pain, or suffering - shared in the sermon? Which one spoke most to your life and why?
5. What are other biblical images of eternal life, and how do those images inform how we are to live today?
6. How did God speak to you through the message?
7. How can we pray for one another?