

HIGHLANDS CHURCH

Study Guide

Living for the Glory to Come

Kevin Yule
November 3, 2025

Major Points

- 1 We must not compromise or peddle God's Word but speak the truth of Christ with sincerity, even when culturally unpopular**
2 Corinthians 2:17
- 2 We are common jars of clay carrying the extraordinary treasure of the gospel, so that God's surpassing power is on display rather than our own**
2 Corinthians 4:7
- 3 Daily renewal through fellowship with the Lord transforms us from the inside even as our outer selves waste away**
2 Corinthians 4:16
- 4 Our present afflictions are light and momentary compared to the eternal weight of glory that awaits us, so we must fix our eyes on the unseen and eternal**
2 Corinthians 4:17-18

Key Quotes

- “What are we living for? What are we living for? Are we living for eternity? Is our hope fixed?”*
at 6:48
- “If we don't spend more time on our knees praying for those people that don't know Jesus than we do loading up our arsenal to come after him with whatever it is, man, we're missing it.”*
at 14:20
- “we are perplexed, but we are not given over to despair.”*
at 7:24
- “No one gets in their car in Phoenix, Arizona and types in Arby Road McDonald's. Start. That's not a destination.”*
at 31:32
- “God, thank you that no matter what happens here, I was never meant to be here forever.”*
at 36:02

Discussion Questions

1. Pastor Yule used the Arby Road story to illustrate how we can get stuck making this temporary life as comfortable as possible. Can you think of a time when you realized you were 'settling' for something far less than what God intended — what woke you up to it?
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2. In 2 Corinthians 4:7, Paul describes believers as 'jars of clay' holding the treasure of the gospel. Why do you think God chose to put His most valuable treasure in something so ordinary and breakable, and how does that change the way you view your own weaknesses?

3. Pastor Yule emphasized that we should spend more time on our knees praying for unbelievers than loading up our apologetic arsenal. How does that challenge the way you typically think about evangelism, and what would it look like to shift that balance practically?

4. Paul says our afflictions are 'light and momentary' compared to the eternal weight of glory. Pastor Yule admitted that's hard to feel in the middle of real pain. How do you hold both truths at once — that suffering is genuinely hard and that it's still 'light' in the scope of eternity?

5. At the end of the sermon, Pastor Yule clarified that living for eternity doesn't mean we can't enjoy God's blessings here. How do you personally navigate the tension between enjoying what God has given you in this life and not putting your hope in it?

Word Studies

ὄστράκινος

ostrakinos

Greek

Made of baked clay or earthenware, emphasizing the fragile, common, and expendable nature of the vessel in contrast to what it contains.

ἐγκακέω

enkakeō

Greek

To lose heart, become weary or faint in the face of difficulty, to give in to cowardly exhaustion rather than persevering.

παρεστηκός parautika

Greek

Momentary, lasting only for the present instant — stressing the fleeting, passing nature of present affliction in contrast to eternal realities.

Cross References

Romans 8:18

Paul makes the same argument from a different angle — present sufferings are 'not worthy to be compared' with coming glory, reinforcing the eternal perspective that anchors 2 Corinthians 4:17.

Isaiah 64:8

God as the potter and His people as clay provides the Old Testament foundation for Paul's 'jars of clay' imagery, reminding us that our fragile, moldable nature is by divine design.

Hebrews 12:1-2

The call to fix our eyes on Jesus and endure hardship parallels Paul's exhortation to look not at what is seen but at what is unseen, both anchoring perseverance in a forward-looking faith.

Lamentations 3:22-23

God's mercies being 'new every morning' connects to Paul's theme of inner renewal 'day by day' — even in the midst of suffering, God's faithfulness sustains daily transformation.

Colossians 3:1-4

Paul's command to set your mind on 'things above, not on things on the earth' directly echoes the sermon's central challenge to live for eternity rather than settling for temporal comfort.

Further Reading

- **The Weight of Glory**
by C.S. Lewis
- **Suffering and the Sovereignty of God**
by John Piper and Justin Taylor
- **Gentle and Lowly: The Heart of Christ for Sinners and Sufferers**
by Dane Ortlund

Scripture References

REFERENCE	TYPE	TIME	CONTEXT
2 Corinthians 3:16-18	Read Aloud	9:17	<i>But when one turns to the Lord, the veil is remove...</i>
2 Corinthians 4:1-18	Referenced	0:32	<i>Therefore, because of that, because of the ministr...</i>
2 Corinthians 2:17	Read Aloud	12:10	<i>For we are not, like so many, peddlers of God's wo...</i>
2 Corinthians 4:7	Read Aloud	16:25	<i>But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show...</i>
2 Corinthians 4:16-18	Read Aloud	22:34	<i>So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is ...</i>
Psalms 16:1	Referenced	21:03	<i>Preserve me, God, for in you do I take refuge.</i>
2 Corinthians 4:3-4	Read Aloud	13:38	<i>And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to ...</i>
2 Corinthians 4:5-6	Read Aloud	14:56	<i>For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus C...</i>
2 Corinthians 4:8-9	Read Aloud	17:55	<i>We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; pe...</i>
2 Peter 3:9	Referenced	18:45	<i>The Lord is not slow concerning his promise, as so...</i>
2 Corinthians 4:10-12	Read Aloud	19:45	<i>always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so...</i>
2 Corinthians 4:13-15	Read Aloud	21:03	<i>Since we have the same spirit of faith according t...</i>
Psalms 116:10	Referenced	21:03	<i>I believed, therefore I said, "I was greatly affli...</i>
Philippians 2:10-11	Referenced	33:53	<i>that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, o...</i>