



Static – Home
Sermon Discussion Questions – Nov. 13

Scripture Passages:

2 Corinthians 5:1-5

For we know that when this earthly tent we live in is taken down, we will have a house in heaven, an eternal body made for us by God himself and not by human hands. 2 We grow weary in our present bodies, and we long to put on our heavenly bodies like new clothing. 3 For we will put on heavenly bodies; we will not be spirits without bodies. 4 While we live in these earthly bodies, we groan and sigh, but it's not that we want to die and get rid of these bodies that clothe us. Rather, we want to put on our new bodies so that these dying bodies will be swallowed up by life. 5 God himself has prepared us for this, and as a guarantee he has given us his Holy Spirit.

1 Peter 2:11

Dear friends, I warn you as “temporary residents and foreigners” to keep away from worldly desires that wage war against your very souls.

John 14:1-6

“Don’t let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, and trust also in me. 2 There is more than enough room in my Father’s home. If this were not so, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? 3 When everything is ready, I will come and get you, so that you will always be with me where I am. 4 And you know the way to where I am going.” 5 “No, we don’t know, Lord,” Thomas said. “We have no idea where you are going, so how can we know the way?” 6 Jesus told him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me.

1 Corinthians 15:12-20

But tell me this—since we preach that Christ rose from the dead, why are some of you saying there will be no resurrection of the dead? 13 For if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised either. 14 And if Christ has not been raised, then all our preaching is useless, and your faith is useless. 15 And we apostles would all be lying about God—for we have said that God raised Christ from the grave. But that can't be true if there is no resurrection of the dead. 16 And if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised. 17 And if Christ has not been raised, then your faith is useless, and you are still guilty of your sins. 18 In that case, all who have died believing in Christ are lost! 19 And if our hope in Christ is only for this life, we are more to be pitied than anyone in the world. 20 But in fact, Christ has been raised from the dead. He is the first of a great harvest of all who have died.

Psalm 90:1-2

1 Lord, through all the generations you have been our home! 2 Before the mountains were born, before you gave birth to the earth and the world, from beginning to end, you are God.

Warm Up:

1. Growing up I loved cartoons because they would stretch the imagination. The Jetsons had flying cars. Superman had powers.

What things from cartoons do you wish we could do or partake in? What cartoon do you wish you could be in? What were some of your favorite cartoons?

Discussion:

1. Pastor Tom began this week talk about home to him and that a home is defined by who you are with and a deep sense that you belong.
Where is home for you? Who do you feel at home with and why?
2. Read 2 Corinthians 5:1-5.
Do you sense this deep urge of restlessness or groan for what is promised to us in this passage? How have you felt or sensed this before?
3. “The Christian says, ‘Creatures are not born with desires unless satisfaction for those desires exists. A baby feels hunger: well, there is such a thing as food. A duckling wants to swim: well, there is such a thing as water. Men feel sexual desire: well, there is such a thing as sex. If I find in myself a desire which no experience in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that I was made for another world’ - C.S. Lewis.
What are your initial reactions to this quote? How do these words shape your thoughts about desires?
4. Read John 14:1-6. We are told to not be troubled but to trust that God has prepared a way for us and that way is Jesus.
What other things or ways have you tried to fill your desires? How have these things failed to quench this desire? What are some practical examples of what it might look like to trust God?

5. Read 1 Corinthians 15:12-20. Paul explains if Christ never rose from the dead all that has been done in Christ name throughout history would be useless, but we know that Christ has risen from the dead.
What hope does this spark for you not only about what is to come but for today?

6. “When you feel the love between a child and parent, it is a sign of the Father’s love for you. When you see the leaves of autumn plaster their colors across the landscape, it is a sign of the beauty of your Father’s heart. When you see an act of compassion, it is a sign of Father’s love. When you see a child forgive another, it is a sign of a Father’s great forgiveness for you. When you sit on the front porch and enjoy a peaceful evening, it is a sign, that home is still in your future”- Pastor Tom.
Reflect a little bit on this past season, how have you seen God in your life and what has God been teaching you recently? How might these lessons or experiences point you toward your true home?

7. “If none of my earthly pleasures satisfy it, that does not prove that the universe is a fraud. Probably earthly pleasures were never meant to satisfy it, but only to arouse it, to suggest the real thing. If that is so, I must take care, on the one hand, never to despise, or to be unthankful for, these earthly blessings, and on the other, never to mistake them for the something else of which they are only a kind of copy, or echo, or mirage. I must keep alive in myself the desire for my true country, which I shall not find till after death; I must never let it get snowed under or turned aside; I must make it the main object of life to press on to that country and to help others to do the same”- C.S. Lewis.
What is C.S. Lewis saying here about our true home? What does it look like to hold the balance between being grateful for things in life God gives us but also not making them an idol or place them as Lord of our lives?

Next Steps:

1. Spending some time reflecting a bit through your life the past couple of months as you answer these questions.
 - a. What things have you been desiring recently?
 - b. Are these things starting to become your main priority in life?
 - c. How might you need to reorient you priorities or desires?
2. Read through some of the Scriptures above to be reminded of the promises we receive.
 - a. There are desires which you might not have or find on earth, but rather you will receive in heaven. What promises do you need to be reminded of the most?
 - b. How might this reminder from Scripture shape how you live your life today?
3. Finally, read through the following truths from this series as a reminder.
 - a. The Gospel has power
 - b. The Gospel is fueled by love.
 - c. The Gospel redeems suffering.
 - d. The Gospel makes us like Jesus.
 - e. The Gospel brings us hope.