



THE Best IS YET TO COME

The Best Is Yet to Come: Leaning Into Tomorrow October 2-3, 2021

Speaker: Dr. Dick Foth 1 Corinthians 13:12

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 13:12

Series Overview:

We live at the intersection of two theologies, two realities. The faithfulness of God is pursuing from the past—SO FAR SO GOD. And the sovereignty of God is setting us up for the future. We live forwards, but God is working backward. God is ordering our footsteps. God is preparing good works. We live in a fallen world, a broken world, but heaven is invading earth right here, right now.

We don't believe in happily ever after. We believe in something so much bigger and better and longer—happily FOREVER after. THE BEST IS YET TO COME.

Series Discussion Questions:

Where do I see God at work in my life?

Message Overview:

Heaven is the King's presence. If we are promised LIFE EVERLASTING with Jesus, King of All Creation, what might that look like?

Message-Specific Discussion Questions:

The actions of Jesus are windows into His Kingdom

- Jesus performed miracles on earth (signs and wonders) always with a purpose.
- Read John 9 about the man who was blind from birth.
- Where have you seen the actions of Jesus alive in your life or in someone else's life?
- In verse 38, the healed man sees a little clearer through that window, exclaiming, "Lord, I believe."

The NAMES of Jesus describe this KINGDOM

Whatever you need, Jesus is...

Stability=**I AM**. Care=**Good Shepherd**. Protection=**The Door**. Intimacy=**The Friend**
Hungry=**Living Bread**. Thirsty=**Living Water**. Direction= **Way, Truth, Life**.
Family= **Beloved Son**. Identity=**Son of Man**. Access to power= **Son of God**. Learn=**Teacher**.
Help=**Savior**. Trapped=**Redeemer**. Not alone=**Immanuel**. Anointed leader=**Jesus, the Messiah**.

- What do you need from Jesus today?

Death is not the end.

- “Life is short. Death is certain. The grave is not the goal.”
- Read John 11:17-27. Jesus knows there is a bigger picture.
- What does heaven on earth look like to you?
- Whose expectations are you trying to satisfy?
 - Trying to do it all on my own = **Life with small “i”** and **Death a capital “D”**
 - Embrace Jesus & live the Resurrection Life = **Life with a Capital “L”** and **death with a small “d”**

The mission of God is building a whole new thing!

Read II Timothy 4:7-8 and 1 Corinthians 15:58

- Reflect on what it means to become closer to/connect with the King. To be moving toward home. What comes to mind when you think of living with the King?
- When I “Lean into Tomorrow,” what can I count on?

“That is the logic of the mission of God. God’s recreation of his wonderful world. It began with the resurrection of Jesus and continues mysteriously as God’s people live in the risen Christ and in the power of his Spirit. It means that what we do in Christ and by his Spirit in the present, is not wasted. It will last all the way into God’s new world. In fact, it will be enhanced there.”

Prayer: Lord thank you for the assurance that your plan goes beyond me. That I can find joy and satisfaction in working where you have called me, and how you have called me to live this life, today! Thank you for reminding me that the best is yet to come.

Practical Application

- How would you live life if you knew you couldn’t fail? Where is God asking you to trust Him this week? Write it down.
- Plug into a small group. ncc.re/groups. Find others that shift the atmosphere around them for the better.
- Hack some good habits in a prayerful virtual gathering by joining the [Upper Zoom](#) each Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday at 7:14am. **Register at ncc.re/UpperZoom**