



Beyond the Sermon

A Sermon Application Guide

Title: Facing Eternity

This guide offers a simple tool for those wanting to take the next step with Sunday's message. You can print this guide to study on your own or use it in a group and experience transformation together.

Message Theme

The Great Divide

Prayer Focus

Heavenly Father, Thank You for Your grace and kindness towards me. You have always been there even when I haven't seen it. Continue to walk with me, teach me, and shape me to be more like You. You've paid my debt so I can walk in freedom, sharing the beauty of the Gospel with others. Please equip me with the courage and boldness to share the good news. In Jesus' name, amen.

Key Truths

The Bible sets the foundation for Christianity. If we miss this, we risk drifting away from the original plan. What Jesus said about Hell should motivate us to avoid it. We believe in God's teachings about Heaven, so we should take what He said about Hell seriously.

God created us to have a relationship with Him. Jesus was born in a physical body like ours to save us from death. We can only accept what He did for us while we live on Earth. Once we die, it's too late to make things right with God. Our soul--the real us--will face the consequences based on our relationship status with God. When Jesus rose from the dead, He took all sin with Him, but we must accept Him into our hearts before we pass into eternity.

Being a good person isn't enough to make us right with God. There's no scale in Heaven to weigh our good and bad deeds. The price for our soul is more than we can pay alone. God didn't give us the Law so we could follow it and get into Heaven, but to awaken us and lead us to Christ. In the Old Testament, people transferred their sins to animals before sacrificing them. Thankfully, when Jesus came, He took all our sins and became the final sacrifice to clear our debt. It is finished.

Practical Application

There's no better time to get right with God than now. He isn't distant and isn't avoiding us. The Father invites us to step back into connection with Him.

This week, spend some quiet time in prayer. Ask God for guidance, forgiveness, and a deeper understanding of His love.

Reference Verses

- Jude 1:3
- Hebrews 6:1-2, 2:14-16, 9:27
- Matthew 25:46, 10:28
- Romans 1:24, 3:20
- 1 Thessalonians 5:23
- 2 Thessalonians 1:9
- Mark 9:43-48
- Luke 16:19-27
- 2 Corinthians 12:2-5, 3:9
- Ephesians 4:8-10, 1:7
- 1 Chronicles 10:13-14
- Psalms 49:6-9
- John 14:6

Declarations

- Death is not the end; it's the beginning of eternal life.
- I am not saved by good works but by the grace and sacrifice of Jesus Christ.
- I will spread the good news of Jesus' salvation to others so they can also know His great

What's Next?

Understanding the reality of eternal judgment should move us to live with urgency, faithfulness, and a heart for the lost. The principles from this week's sermon challenge us to stand firm in biblical truth, reflect eternal values in our daily lives, and actively prepare for eternity. By applying these steps, we not only secure our own faith but also become instruments of God's truth and love in the world around us.

1. Contend Earnestly for the Faith

Faith must be rooted in truth, and that truth is found in God's Word. Commit to deep Bible study, allowing Scripture to shape your understanding and equip you to discern and refute false teachings. Engage in biblical discipleship by joining small groups, mentorship programs, or Bible studies to grow in faith alongside other

believers. Most importantly, share the Gospel boldly, warning others about the reality of eternal separation from God and pointing them toward salvation in Jesus Christ.

2. Live a Life that Reflects Eternal Realities

A believer's life should mirror the eternal hope we have in Christ. Prioritize God's Word by dedicating time daily to prayer, Scripture reading, and meditation on His truth. Strive for holiness, seeking to live in obedience to God and turning away from sin. Keep your focus on eternal rewards, remembering that the things of this world are temporary, but the treasures stored in heaven will last forever.

3. Prepare for Eternity

Recognizing the urgency of salvation should compel us to share the Gospel at every opportunity. Speak the truth with love and encourage those around you to embrace Christ. Live a life of significance by using your gifts, time, and talents to serve God and others, making an impact that extends beyond this life. Encourage fellow believers in their faith journey, strengthening the body of Christ as we all prepare for eternity together.

By following these steps, we align our lives with God's eternal plan and become faithful witnesses of His truth. Remember, the time we have on earth is short, but the impact of how we live now will last forever. Stand firm in the faith, pursue righteousness, and boldly proclaim the Gospel, knowing that our ultimate reward is in Christ.

Scripture References

Facing Eternity

Jude 3 NKJV I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints.

Hebrews 6:1-2 NKJV Therefore, leaving the discussion of the elementary principles of Christ, let us go on to perfection, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, of the doctrine of baptisms, of laying on of hands, of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.

Matthew 25:46 KJV And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.

Romans 1:24 NKJV Therefore God also gave them up...

2 Thessalonians 1:9 RENNER A verdict will be issued in God's court of law and a sentence will be passed, requiring all those who rejected the gospel to pay the consequences of eternal destruction. This doesn't mean they will cease to exist. However, in eternity they will lose the meaning of existence, for they will be separated from the presence of the Lord, far removed from His glory and it will be too late for His mighty strength to reach down to save, rescue, or deliver them.

1 Thessalonians 5:23 NKJV ...may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless...

Matthew 10:28 NKJV And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

Mark 9:43-44 NKJV If your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter into life maimed, rather than having two hands, to go to hell, into the fire that shall never be quenched—where ‘Their worm does not die And the fire is not quenched.’

Luke 16:19-31 NKJV “There was a certain rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and fared sumptuously every day. But there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, full of sores, who was laid at his gate, desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man’s table. Moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. So it was that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels to Abraham’s bosom. The rich man also died and was buried. And being in torments in Hades, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. “Then he cried and said, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.’ But Abraham said, ‘Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things; but now he is comforted and you are tormented. And besides all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed, so that those who want to pass from here to you cannot, nor can those from there pass to us.’ “Then he said, ‘I beg you therefore, father, that you would send him to my father’s house, for I have five brothers, that he may testify to them, lest they also come to this place of torment.’ Abraham said to him, ‘They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.’ And he said, ‘No, father Abraham; but if one goes to them from the dead, they will repent.’ But he said to him, ‘If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rise from the dead.’ ”

2 Corinthians 12:2-4 NKJV I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago—whether in the body I do not know, or whether out of the body I do not know, God knows—such a one was caught up to the third heaven. And I know such a man—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows— how he was caught up into Paradise and heard inexpressible words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter.

James 2:26 NKJV For as the body without the spirit is dead...

Matthew 12:40 NKJV For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.

Psalms 24:7 KJV Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in.

Ephesians 4:9-10 NKJV (Now this, “He ascended”—what does it mean but that He also first descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is also the One who ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.)

John 1:29 NKJV “Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!”

Hebrews 9:27 NKJV And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment...

1 Chronicles 10:13-14 KJV So Saul died for his transgression which he committed against the Lord, even against the word of the Lord, which he kept not, and also for asking counsel of one that had a familiar spirit, to enquire of it; And enquired not of the Lord...

2 Corinthians 5:8 NKJV ...to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.

Psalm 49:6-9 NJB They trust in their wealth, and boast of the profusion of their riches. But no one can ever redeem himself or pay his own ransom to God. The price will be too high; it can never be that he will live on forever and avoid the sight of the abyss.

Psalm 49:12-13 NJB In prosperity people lose their good sense, they become no better than dumb animals. So they go on in their self-assurance, right up to the end they are content with their lot.

Psalm 49:16-20 NJB Do not be overawed when someone gets rich, and lives in ever greater splendour; when he dies he will take nothing with him, his wealth will not go down with him. Though he pampered himself while he lived -- and people praise you for looking after yourself- he will go to join the ranks of his ancestors, who will never again see the light. In prosperity people lose their good sense, they become no better than dumb animals.

Romans 3:20 NKJV Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight...

2 Corinthians 3:9 NKJV For if the ministry of condemnation...

Psalm 49:6-9 NJB They trust in their wealth, and boast of the profusion of their riches. But no one can ever redeem himself or pay his own ransom to God. The price will be too high; it can never be that he will live on forever and avoid the sight of the abyss.

2 Corinthians 5:21 NKJV For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

John 1:12 NKJV But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God...