

Thursday

Please read Matthew 6:1-4, Luke 6:20-23, 2 Corinthians 4:16-18, and 2 Timothy 6:17-19. What do these passages tell you about God's heart and rewards? What specific encouragement do you receive from these verses when it comes to feeling as though your suffering or helping has gone unnoticed? Think about your life and actions in the last week. How can these verses help you be more content when earthly rewards or recognition are slow in coming or never come?

Thank God today that he will exchange suffering and sorrow for joy and reward in heaven. Pray that your life will be lived with the quiet confidence that comes from believing that God is anxious to balance the scales of life.

Friday

Please read 2 Corinthians 5:9-10 and Colossians 3:22-24. When are you most tempted to feel as though your service for the Lord has been ignored? How does it motivate you to know that your life can have eternal significance? What are some of the "good works" that you believe God has prepared for you to do? How does the admonition to live not just for today but for *The Day* encourage you? In what practical ways will it change your life?

Thank God that your life's significance will outlive you. Thank him for the motivation of rewards. Pray that you will not be motivated by guilt but that you will continually be motivated by God's amazing grace.

Saturday

Please read Revelation 19-20 to be ready for tomorrow.

Ask God to prepare your heart so that you can worship him in Spirit and truth as you come together with your brothers and sisters tomorrow. Pray for both of our Sunday services, that they will clearly show God's grace and truth to all who attend.

Heaven Is Real

Message by Rick McRostie on Sunday, June 11, 2017

The Rewards of Heaven

"Rejoice in that day, leap for joy, because great is your reward in heaven."
Luke 6:23

"For the Son of Man is going to come in his Father's glory with his angels, and then he will reward each person according to what he has done."
Matthew 16:27

"...the Lord will reward everyone for whatever good he does...."
Ephesians 6:8

FAQ about heavenly rewards:

1. Doesn't a reward for works contradict the idea of grace?

I am saved by _____ for a _____

"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." Ephesians 2:8-10

Even these rewards are examples of God's _____

It's not just about actions; it's about your _____

"If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love, I gain nothing." 1 Corinthians 13:3 (See 1 Corinthians 3:12-15, 1 Corinthians 4:5; Luke 10:41-42)

2. What's the point of rewards if I'm going to heaven anyway?

Encouragement: _____ I do for God
is ever overlooked

"...you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous." Luke 14:14

"repaid" (Greek antapodidomai): _____

Direction: I'm here on earth for a _____

(See Ephesians 2:10)



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Motivation: My perseverance will be _____

*"I press on toward the goal to win the **prize** for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus."* Philippians 3:14

3. What will I be rewarded for?

No _____ is unnoticed

*"Blessed are you when men hate you, when they exclude you and insult you and reject your name as evil, because of the Son of Man. Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, because **great is your reward** in heaven."*

Luke 6:22-23

*"Our light and momentary troubles **are achieving for us** an eternal glory that far outweighs them all."* 2 Corinthians 4:17

"Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God." Hebrews 12:2

No _____ is overlooked

*"Then Jesus said to his host, 'When you give a luncheon or dinner, do not invite your friends, your brothers or relatives, or your rich neighbors; if you do, they may invite you back and so you will be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, **you will be repaid** at the resurrection of the righteous.'" Luke 14:12-14*

*"Anyone who gives you a cup of water in my name because you belong to Christ will certainly not lose his **reward**."* Mark 9:41

*"When you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will **reward** you."* Matthew 6:3-4

*"Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. In this way they will **lay up treasure for themselves** as a firm foundation for the coming age."* 1 Timothy 6:18-19

No _____ is ignored

*"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a **reward**."* Colossians 3:22-24

No _____ is unrewarded

*"And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or fields for my sake **will receive a hundred times as much** and will inherit eternal life."* Matthew 19:29

*"But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your **reward** will be great...."*

Luke 6:35

The Big Idea:

**Don't just live for _____ ;
live for _____ !**

"His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant!'"

Matthew 25:21

Daily Meditations

Daily Bible studies and questions for reflection on today's topic.

This week's memory verse:

*"I press on toward the goal to win the **prize** for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus."* Philippians 3:14

Monday

Please read Matthew 16:24-27. What did you learn about your rewards in heaven that surprised you the most? Why? How has your experience with earthly rewards influenced your perceptions of heavenly rewards? Does the truth of heavenly rewards make you excited or scared? Why?

Thank God that he lavishes his grace and love on you. Thank him for the promise and hope of heaven and eternal rewards.

Tuesday

Please read Ephesians 2:8-10. What do these verses tell you about God's grace? How can unconditional grace be abused? How have you been tempted to abuse God's grace? How do heavenly rewards reflect God's grace? How does knowing grace is involved in even your rewards, impact your perspective?

Thank God for his amazing grace that saved you and sustains you. Thank him for what you learn when you study his Word. Pray that your understanding of heavenly rewards will grow this week and that it will impact your daily life.

Wednesday

Please read Luke 12:12-14, Ephesians 2:10, and Philippians 3:13-14. After all you've learned in the last several weeks, doesn't heaven itself seem like more than enough of a reward and gift of God's grace? How does knowing there are additional eternal rewards help you? Recall a time when you did something good that went unnoticed? How do these verses specifically encourage you in relation to that action? Write down the three primary motivations in your life? How do these verses impact your motivations? In turn, how would that impact your actions?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Thank God today for his encouragement and his future rewards. Thank him for the fact that he created you with a specific purpose in mind. Pray that you will be more motivated by eternity.