

October 30 – Finishing Well (Week 7)

1. Our goal is to glorify God in the way we die
 - a. Peter(Thid he said to show by what kind of death he was to glorify God.(John 21:19)
 - b. Paul: Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death
(Philippians 1:20).
 - c. Jesus in John 17 prays that he would glorify his father in his death
 - d. Paul: I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith (2 Tim 4:7).
 - e. “Saying that through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God (Acts 14:22)”.
2. One of the metrics by which a pastor’s or a church’s ministry can be assessed is how well the saints are coming to the end of life.
3. “And this is eternal life, that they know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent” (John 17:3).
4. “The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ” (1 Corinthians 15:56-57).
5. Strategy 1: Give up on this life graciously-things and values
“Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world. And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever” (1 John 2:15-17)..
6. Strategy 2: Embrace Eternity
“You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore” (Psalm 16:11).
“O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water. So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your

power and glory. Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you” (Psalm 63:1-3).

7. To the extent that we can understand and experience God’s love for us, develop a longing for God and find ourselves increasingly satisfied with him, more than all other things in this life, we will be prepared to die and to enter his presence. We will find what we have longed for and more. But, if we are grasping on to the things of this earth, we will never be fulfilled.
8. Strategy 3 Come to closure with others
 - a. Saying the four things
 - i. I love you
 - ii. Thank you
 - iii. I forgive you
 - iv. Forgive me
 - b. Think through who needs to hear these.
9. Strategy 4: A theology of technology
 - a. Having dominion Gen 1:26-28
 - b. Technology by itself is powerless without God
 - c. Potential goals of care
 - i. Cure and get back to normal
 - ii. Stabilize function
 - iii. Prepare for a comfortable and dignified death
 - iv. Pascal’s diversion “As men are not able to fight against death, misery, ignorance, they have taken it into their heads, in order to be happy, not to think of them at all. . . We run carelessly to the precipice, after we have put something before us to prevent us seeing it.