

**DATE:** Saturday - Sunday, April 11-12, 2020

**SERIES: WHY GOD SENT HIS SON**

**SERMON:** Living in the Parenthesis

***1 Corinthians 15:50-58***

**1 Corinthians 15:50-58 NIV**

[50] I declare to you, brothers and sisters, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

[51] Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed -

[52] in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed.

[53] For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality.

[54] When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: "Death has been swallowed up in victory."

[55] "Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?"

[56] The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.

[57] But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

[58] Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

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*1 Corinthians 15:50-58*

## ***“We are all living until something else happens”***

### **1. We marvel at the parenthesis.**

- *1 Corinthians 15:50-53 I declare to you, brothers and sisters, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed - in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality.*

### **2. We delight in the parenthesis.**

- *1 Corinthians 15:54-56 When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: “Death has been swallowed up in victory.” “Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?” The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.*
- *Romans 8:28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.*

### **3. We rejoice in the parenthesis.**

- *1 Corinthians 15:57 But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

### **4. We serve in the parenthesis.**

- *1 Corinthians 15:58 Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.*

# Lagniappe

No one expected this – ever! Who would have thought that our church buildings would be empty for Easter and our families not joining together for Easter Sunday?

But, of course, this is where we are. We must celebrate the resurrection in a slightly different way but with the same intensity as ever.

Here are some things you can do.

**First, plan to participate in Bible Study and worship with your Connect Group and in your normal worship service.**

While our physical location (in our homes) has changed, nothing else has changed. Christ is risen, and He is our hope.

As you worship at home, put yourself into worship. Open your Bible, sing along, pray, and listen carefully to what God says to you through the sermon and the entire worship hour.

**Second, talk your children – or yourself – throughout the day.** Let them know that the resurrection gives us hope. Let them know that this is the most important day in history.

Moses emphasized the importance of teaching children the things of God. *“Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up” Deuteronomy 6:7.*

Use the whole day to remember what God has done.

In some ways this will be easier than ever before. We will not have sports on TV or a house full of company.

**Third, read the resurrection story.** I suggest Luke 24 (the whole chapter). Meditate on what it means and how it has changed our world.

This may be the only time you ever have to do this – we all hope so. Make the most of it.

WAYLON