

Better By Far
Philippians 1.20-26
September 2, 2012
Message Outline



1. No matter what we're all going die

It's painful and it's our enemy

Marcus is chained to the strangest man

Dying is way, way, way better by far!

Philippians 1.20-26

2. When undeserving, rescued sinners die . . .

. . . face to face with Jesus, right now

Philippians 1.23

2 Corinthians 5.6-8

Psalms 16.11

not . . .

3. Go today and . . .

Have Hope

Share Hope

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Growth Group Questions



1. Share about one of your earliest encounters with death.

2. For the undeserving rescued-by-Jesus sinner, death really is better by far, Philippians 1.23. But for those of us who remain on earth, it can really sting; it can leave us feeling broken, angry and empty.
 - a. Think about our responses to those who suffer loss in light of these scriptures: Philippians 2.27, Romans 12.15, 2 Corinthians 1.3-4.

 - b. Share a couple of very specific, very helpful ways people have comforted you in your sorrow.

 - c. Now share something someone said or did (well-meaning) that didn't help you in your grieving. Let's learn together how to better love one another.

 - d. Consider and talk about this statement: "Good grief always takes longer than anyone wants it to."

3. What are some of the myths you may have believed about what happens when a believer in Jesus dies? How did God's Word help you to better understand His truth?

4. Sharing the hope of Jesus Christ is always important at a time of death. People are often thinking more about their eternal destiny. But, isn't it even more important to share this hope we have in Jesus *all the time*, not just in a time of crisis? As you see people this week at the store, at the office, or at school, think about them in light of their eternal destiny. Pray for them, that you might share a part of the Good News of Jesus sooner, rather than later.