



Discussion Guide

For the week of March 8, 2026

What Would You Die For? | 2 Corinthians 4:8-18

Miss this week's teaching? You can watch it at <https://youtu.be/fYkjl8plfo>

Summary

Pastor Jim explores Paul's perspective on suffering and hope as believers. Paul describes how Christians face troubles but are never crushed; perplexed but not in despair; hunted but never abandoned; and knocked down but not destroyed. His message emphasizes that believers are 'passing through' this life with an eternal perspective, understanding that present sufferings are temporary while our heavenly reward is eternal. Paul and the early disciples lived courageously, willing to die for the Gospel, knowing their mission was to share Christ regardless of persecution. He challenges us to live boldly for the Gospel, recognizing that what we're willing to die for reveals what's most important to us. Through historical examples of martyrs from Stephen to modern times, Pastor Jim illustrates how Christians throughout history have chosen eternal significance over temporary comfort, living with the hope of resurrection and glorification.

Intro Prayer

Heavenly Father, we come before You today with grateful hearts, knowing that You have called us together for a purpose. As we gather to study Your Word and discuss what it means for our lives, we ask that You would open our hearts and minds to receive what You want to teach us today. Help us to be honest with one another and with ourselves as we examine our own faith and courage. Lord, we pray that You would speak to each person here in the way they need to hear from You. Give us wisdom, understanding, and the boldness to apply Your truth to our daily lives. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Ice Breaker

What is something you care about so deeply that you would be willing to sacrifice your own comfort — or even more — for it? How did it become that important to you?

Key Verses

- 2 Corinthians 4:8-9
- 2 Corinthians 4:16-18
- 2 Corinthians 11:24-28
- Psalm 116:1-19

Questions

- Paul describes being 'pressed on every side by troubles, but not crushed.' What does this look like practically in our daily lives when we face difficulties?
- Pastor Jim mentions that Paul lived 'under constant danger of death' for the sake of the Gospel. How does this challenge our modern understanding of what it means to follow Christ?
- Paul calls his sufferings 'light afflictions' despite experiencing beatings, shipwrecks, and imprisonment. How can we develop this eternal perspective when facing our own challenges?



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- Pastor Jim asks 'What are we willing to die for?' How would you answer this question, and what does your answer reveal about your priorities?
- Paul says 'we believe and so we speak.' In what ways do our actions and words demonstrate what we truly believe about Jesus?
- Pastor Jim emphasizes that we are 'just passing through' this life. How should this perspective change the way we approach our careers, relationships, and daily decisions?
- Many historical figures mentioned were willing to be martyred rather than compromise their faith. What pressures do we face today that might tempt us to compromise our Christian witness?
- Paul found hope in the resurrection and future glorification. How can focusing on our eternal destiny help us persevere through current struggles and maintain boldness in sharing the Gospel?

Life Application

This week, identify one area where you've been living in fear or compromise rather than boldly living out your faith. Choose one specific way to courageously share the Gospel or stand for biblical truth, whether through a conversation with a friend, a post on social media, or taking a stand on a moral issue. Remember that you're 'just passing through' this life and live with eternal perspective in mind.

Key Takeaways

- Christians face troubles but are never ultimately crushed, abandoned, or destroyed because of our hope in Christ
- We are 'passing through' this temporary life with an eternal perspective, knowing our true home is in heaven
- What we're willing to die for reveals what's most important to us - the Gospel should be at the top of that list
- Our present sufferings are 'light afflictions' compared to the eternal glory that awaits believers
- We must live courageously and speak boldly about our faith, following the example of Paul and countless martyrs throughout history

Ending Prayer

Lord Jesus, thank You for the example of Paul and the countless believers throughout history who lived courageously for Your Gospel. We confess that we often live in fear rather than faith, choosing comfort over courage. Help us to truly grasp that we are just passing through this life and that our eternal home is with You. Give us the boldness to speak Your truth in love, to stand for righteousness even when it's difficult, and to live each day with the perspective that this life is temporary but our reward in heaven is eternal. Transform our hearts to value what You value and to be willing to sacrifice for what truly matters. May we be people who believe and therefore speak, living out our faith with the same courage and hope that Paul demonstrated. In Your precious name we pray, Amen.