

# HERE TODAY, GONE TOMORROW

April 23/24, 2022  
2 Corinthians 4:16-18

Sermon by Pastor Josiah Nordgren  
Sermon Based by Pastor Vance Hartzell  
Family Moment by Andrea Manual

## FAMILY MOMENT

- Read 2 Corinthians 4:18 together.
- Pastor Josiah shared this, “We choose where we fix our eyes.”
- Talk to your kids about what it means to focus on Jesus and eternity, instead of focusing on temporary things.
- Share a real-life example when you were too focused on something temporary. (We tend to point these things out when we see them in our kids, but it’s important for them to understand that we are still learning ourselves. They should understand that we are on this journey of discipleship WITH them.)
- Grab a sheet of paper and draw the shape of two large eyes. Ask your kids to fill the eyes with things they might be too focused on. It could be anything, positive or negative – toys, video games, mean things someone has said to them, friendships, sports, school, etc.
- On the other side of the paper, draw a big heart. Ask your kids to fill the heart with things that could help them focus more on Jesus and less on the things they just wrote down. Some examples might be prayer, reading the Bible, etc.
- Hang the sheet of paper up where you can see it and use it to help guide your kids toward the things that will help them focus on Jesus.
- Pray with them and for them!

### THINK ABOUT IT

## ‘OHANA GROUP

We had a great time last weekend as we celebrated Good Friday and Easter. Over 1,825 people came through our doors (plus 993 online) in one of our seven Good Friday and Easter services! Most importantly, 150 people (that we know of) decided to accept Christ! We pray that these individuals will continue to grow in their newfound faith and live a life full of the Gospel for others. We encourage all of them to start GDGS next Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, at 1:30 pm, at the Kapolei Campus, as they learn the mission and vision of our church.

Pastor Josiah’s theme verse this past weekend was in 2 Corinthians 4: 16-18, “Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.” Paul says he found the secret to a fulfilled life, that is, how we do not lose heart as our outer self is wasting away and how we thrive and are renewed day by day. Paul says that focusing on the unseen will constantly renew your soul with hope, strength, and joy!

1. As life gets tougher, how do we focus on the unseen so that our soul can be renewed day by day?
2. How do we press on forward and not look back as Paul encourages us to do in Philippians 3:13-14?

### TALK ABOUT IT

Pastor Josiah shared that we tend to look at everything through the lens of now: we focus on lost jobs, lost girlfriends/boyfriends, lost money, lost opportunities, etc., but we never think of these losses in terms of eternity. What will these losses look like in a year, 10 years, hundred years? Will they really matter? From the perspective of eternity, we can focus on things that are really important in life. It’s not that we don’t care about what is happening today but that we care more about what will last.

Paul says, “I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do all this through him who gives me strength.” Paul didn’t put everything in the focus of today but in what is gained for the Kingdom. He put his priority and focus on the spiritual, e.g., how can he spread the gospel, how can he train new pastors, how can he start new churches, how can he lead people to Christ – these were his priorities. These were the things that have eternal value. Pastor Josiah shared, “If things in this life are where you place your hope, then I am sorry because you will be severely disappointed.”

1. Do you find yourself worrying too much by the things of this world? How?
  2. How would you “set your mind and hearts on the things above” as Paul encourages in Colossians 3:1-2?
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1. In the coming week, think of things in which you can invest for the Kingdom of God.
  2. Take the next step and start doing the things that matter for eternity.

### LIVE IT