

The Promise of Eternity: A Biblically Focused Study of Eternal Life

Here are some small group discussion questions based on the sermon "The Promise of

1. Reflecting on Grief and Hope:

- How does the story of David's response to his child's death in 2 Samuel 12:16-23 provide a model for dealing with grief?
- How can the promise of eternity bring comfort in times of loss?

2. Understanding the "Thin Place":

- Stephen mentions NT Wright's concept of a "thin place" where heaven and earth seem close. Have you ever experienced a moment where you felt particularly close to God? What was that like?
- How do practices like prayer, reading scripture, and serving others help us experience these "thin places"?

3. The Promise of Eternity:

- In his reflection, Stephen, mentioned that "one day the veil will be lifted; earth and heaven will be one." How does Revelation 21:1-4 describe this future reality?
- What does it mean for you personally to live with the hope of eternity?

4. David's Intimacy with God:

- Stephen highlighted David's intimacy with God. How do Psalms like Psalm 23 and Psalm 139 reflect David's relationship with God and his understanding of eternity?
- How can we cultivate a deeper intimacy with God in our own lives?

5. Living with Eternal Perspective:

- How does the belief that "this life is but a blink of an eye compared to eternity" influence the way you live your daily life?
- What practical steps can we take to keep an eternal perspective in our decisions and relationships?

6. The Role of the Holy Spirit:

- Stephen mentions the Holy Spirit's role in providing comfort. How does John 14:16-17 describe the Holy Spirit's presence in our lives?

- In what ways have you experienced the Holy Spirit's comfort and guidance during difficult times?

7. Heavenly Reunion:

- David expressed hope in seeing his child again, saying, "I will go to him." How does 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 provide assurance of a future reunion with loved ones who have passed away?
- How does this promise of reunion impact your view of death and eternity?