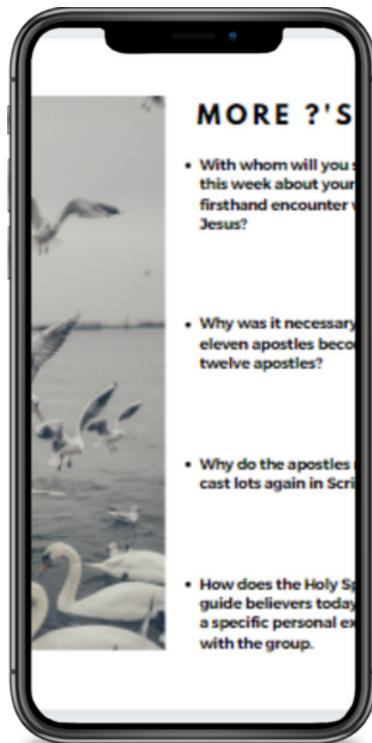


# LEADERS

HERE IS HOW YOU USE THIS  
GUIDE:

What your group members see:



What you see:



The **RED** text is coaching, direction, and suggested phrasing that only you see.



# REASON

FOR HOPE

## SESSION 2

1. Watch this week's sermon at [JesseCampbellMinistries.com](https://www.JesseCampbellMinistries.com).
2. Gather your group or family and open your Bibles to the next verse.
3. Apply your life to the Bible together with these honest questions.
4. Complete the Book of Acts through Devotions 162-167 ([podcast/video](#)) and share them with the one you're discipling.

# GROUP/FAMILY SESSION 2

## II CORINTHIANS 5:1-5

This Week's Sermon addresses ultimate origins  
Devotions 162-167 (podcast/video) cover proving God from Scripture  
At [www.JesseCampbellMinistries.com](http://www.JesseCampbellMinistries.com)

### ICE-BREAKER IDEA:

You have been given two tickets to the Superbowl. You go by yourself. Now, why is that considered "jerk" behavior? Christians have been given far more than Superbowl tickets. This is why we practice apologetics.

### CONTEXT:

Paul wrote to correct error in his two, possibly three, letters to the Church at Corinth. Chapters 4-6 of II Corinthians point the hearts of both the original readers and modern Christians toward heaven. They place our sufferings in an eternal perspective and so are often spoken at funerals.

Apologetics divorced from evangelism (sharing our faith) are just theological naval-gazing. Apologetics practiced in light of eternity are suddenly infused with evangelistic urgency. Christians have irrevocable peace through the Holy Spirit's down payment on our hearts. Non-Christians, however, have no such guarantee when facing matters of eternity. So, we must act with urgency.

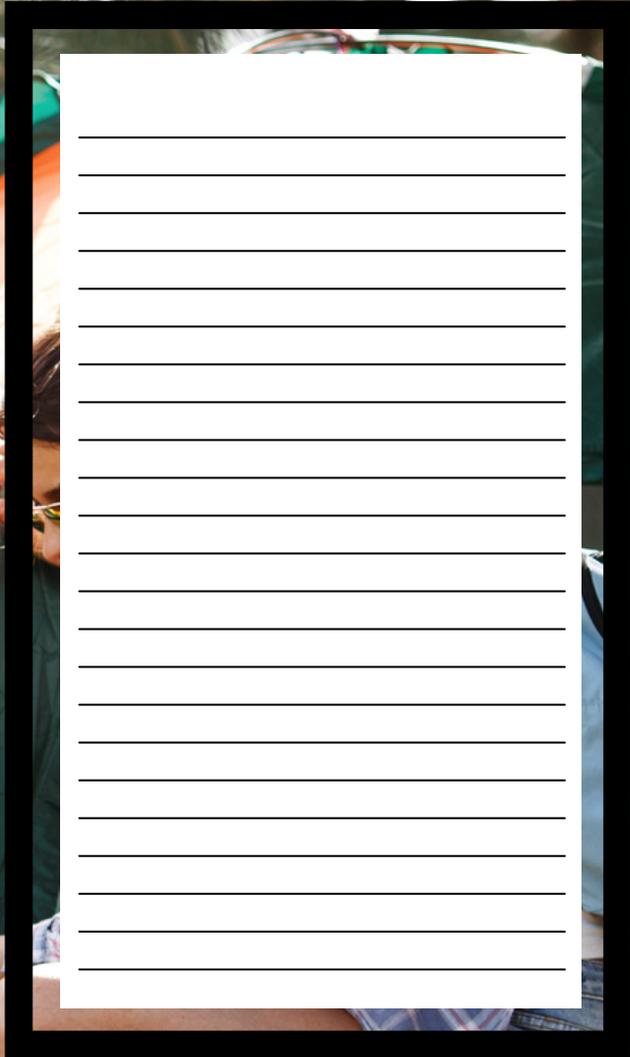
### THE BIG IDEA OF THE TEXT:

In this sin-stained and temporary life, we groan. However, the downpayment of the Holy Spirit guarantees that this burdensome mortality will be swalled up by eternal life for Christians.

# NOTES

## CONNECTING THIS SESSION TO THE SERMON

This past weekend's sermon addresses ultimate origins; the origins of the universe's physical matter, life itself, and morality. Only Christianity posits a complete explanation for ultimate origins. No atheistic worldview could possibly address the origins of even a single atom; much less life and morality. The moment an atheistic worldview posits a theory of ultimate origins, it necessarily becomes theistic. So, matters of eternity past and future are unavoidable. This passage speaks to the peace that Christians have in regards to the future eternity. We as Christians ought not hoard that peace, but share it passionately through apologetics and evangelism!



A large white notepad with horizontal lines is positioned on the right side of the page, intended for taking notes. A black pen is visible at the top of the notepad. The background shows a person sitting on the grass next to a tent, with sunlight filtering through the trees.



## BIBLICAL TEXT (CSB)

**II Corinthians 5:1** For we know that if our earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal dwelling in the heavens, not made with hands. 2 Indeed, we groan in this tent, desiring to put on our heavenly dwelling, 3 since, when we are clothed, we will not be found naked. 4 Indeed, we groan while we are in this tent, burdened as we are, because we do not want to be unclothed but clothed, so that mortality may be swallowed up by life. 5 Now the one who prepared us for this very purpose is God, who gave us the Spirit as a down payment.

## APPLYING OUR LIVES TO THE TEXT TOGETHER:

- Why did Paul refer to our earthly bodies as "tents" (v.1) and how does that affect your sense of urgency in practicing apologetics (arguing for God's existence)?
  - As we saw last week, the unseen is eternal while the seen is temporary. Every minute that passes is an opportunity to invite someone closer.
- Verse 2 describes our groaning as souls within imperfect bodies. What afflictions do you as a Christian look forward to being freed from in heaven?
  - "22 For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together with labor pains until now. 23 Not only that, but we ourselves who have the Spirit as the firstfruits—we also groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for adoption, the redemption of our bodies." - Romans 8
- How do our Non-Christian friends' health issues point their eyes heavenward? Without violating their privacy, for whom can your group pray right this very second?
  - Flaws in creation are symptoms of original sin. While the fallen nature of the beautiful universe are sometimes referenced as proof that the universe was not designed, it actually evidences the Bible exactly.
- Verse 4's term "clothed" assures us that we do not become disembodied souls floating in aether when we die. While this comforts Christians, how does it affect others?
  - Nihilism, the belief that we are annihilated upon death, is adopted against the better wisdom of the skeptic to "avoid" judgement.
- Based on verse 5, can a Christian lose his or her salvation? When a Christian practices apologetics and someone, by the Holy Spirit's drawing, believes; the results are eternal.
  - God would not guarantee salvation with a downpayment he revokes.
- How does apologetics fit within the purpose described in verse 5 for our very lives?
  - It is central to our very commissioning (Matt. 28:18-20) and purpose.

# THE TAKEAWAY

## SO WHAT, CHURCH?

THERE IS A COMING REDEMPTION FOR ALL OF OUR PRESENT SUFFERINGS IN THIS LIFE. MORTALITY ITSELF WILL ONE DAY BE SWALLOWED UP BY ETERNAL LIFE. SO, THE CHRISTIAN FINDS AN ETERNALLY SIGNIFICANT SENSE OF PURPOSE: MARKED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT AS A DOWNPAYMENT GUARANTEEING WHAT IS TO COME. PRACTICING APOLOGETICS WITH AN EVANGELISTIC AIM, THEN, IS ONE OF THE MOST SIGNIFICANT THINGS WE DO BECAUSE ITS RESULTS LAST FOREVER.

Keep a journal of prayers prayed and answered, ask for updates on the Non-Christians each Christian in the group is sharing the gospel with, and invite each member of the group whether Christian or Non-Christian to take their next steps in the discipleship process. **Be sure to keep record of attendance!**

POINT OUT THE LINKS AT THE BOTTOM TO YOUR GROUP. ENCOURAGE THEM TO USE THESE PODCASTS AS DISCIPLESHIP CONTENT FOR THEIR ONE-ON-ONE DISCIPLESHIP RELATIONSHIPS THROUGHOUT THE WEEK  
SUBSCRIBE TO JESSE CAMPBELL MINISTRIES YOUTUBE AND PODCAST

## FOR PARENTS:

How to Show Your Kids Jesus in This Passage:

All Scripture points to Jesus. Here is how you can take what God showed you in this text and disciple your child with it! You don't need a seminary degree and you don't need to be perfect. Just point to Jesus. He is perfect.



Our sense of purpose is to share the love of Jesus with as many people as we can. The things we build with our hands will not last forever. They are like sandcastles that will one day be washed away by the waves. The people God brings to himself through us are forever saved. So, we will devote our lives, no matter what kind of job we have, to leading as many people to Jesus as we can. According to Second Corinthians, this is our purpose and calling; to know Jesus and make Him known.

TO COVER THE SUBSEQUENT SCRIPTURE IN DAILY DEVOTIONS 162-167:

SUBSCRIBE TO JESSE CAMPBELL MINISTRIES YOUTUBE AND PODCAST