

Part 8: Seeing Beyond

Big Idea

We see today differently when we know what's coming tomorrow. Sometimes in life our physical eyes need glasses or contacts in order for us to see clearly, and, in the same way, our spiritual eyes sometimes need help in order to have the proper view of life. The enemy wants us to fix our focus on our past. But God is inviting us to see beyond our limits and view life through His lenses. We do this by knowing that God loves us, that we've been adopted into the family of God, and knowing that God has made us heirs of His glory. (Romans 8:16-17, Galatians 3:26-4:7)

There is more to life than what we presently see. As a matter of fact, God sees beyond the outer limits of our imagination (Ephesians 3:20, 1 Corinthians 2:9). Pastor Layne taught us four things we can do to help us see beyond. First, we must see beyond our faults. God does not condemn us for our sins and neither should we. Secondly, we must see beyond correction by understanding that correction is not rejection, it's redirection. Next, we see beyond the opinions of this world by honoring and celebrating others. Finally, we see beyond ourselves, realizing that we are only one piece in God's amazing puzzle.

"For his Spirit joins with our spirit to affirm that we are God's children. And since we are his children, we are his heirs. In fact, together with Christ we are heirs of God's glory. But if we are to share his glory, we must also share his suffering." (Romans 8:16-17)

Discussion Questions

- Have you ever had a false view of God? If so, where did it come from and how did you correct it?
- Think about the priceless inheritance God has given you: salvation through Jesus Christ. (1 Peter 1:4) What does God's gift teach us about God's love for us? What would you like to leave as an inheritance if you had unlimited resources?
- Adopting parents must pursue their adopted children. The Bible teaches us that God has adopted us into His family (Ephesians 1:5). In what ways have you experienced God pursuing you?

Prayer Focus

Father God, we love you! Help us to see beyond where we are now and into the bright future that you have planned for each of us. Thank you for Motion Conference 19! We pray that you bless every song, every message, and every Small Group session to touch hearts and change lives. We pray that each student experiences your presence, finds freedom, and receives your grace. In Jesus' name, Amen!

Next Steps

This week, let's stay in prayer for the thousands of students that will meet at the BJCC to experience God at the Motion conference. Also, let's make plans now to be a part of 21 Days of Prayer—find out more at <https://21days.churchofthehighlands.com/>.

Leader Tip

As a leader, what do you do to see beyond the here and now? Do you have a favorite Bible verse? A quiet place where you go to separate from the world and draw closer to God? Share your practice with your small group and encourage them to be intentional about seeing beyond.