



26th January 2020

### Study Guide – Lessons in Discipleship from 2 Corinthians

# Study 4 – Changed Bodies

# Please read 2 Corinthians 4.7-10; Romans 8.11

"There is no good trying to be more spiritual than God," as C.S. Lewis insisted. "God never meant man to be a purely spiritual creature. God likes bodies. He invented them." God is at work in redeeming and renewing every aspect of our whole 'body' (not just our knowledge of Him), untwisting what sin and evil have twisted so we can live in the body in a way intended – rather than in a way distorted.

1. In your 'body' (any aspect of your whole being), how is God working with you in untwisting and renewing something in His light and by HIs love?

### Please read 2 Corinthians 4.16-18; Romans 8.22-25

As we await the heavenly renewal of our bodies, God's purpose is that we are now being 'renewed day by day' in our present bodies, even as these physical bodies waste away.

2. Take a moment to thank God for the renewing life of Jesus, changing our bodies – even as they waste away – into His glorious likeness by the power and presence of the Holy Spirit.

#### Please read 2 Corinthians 5.1; 1 Corinthians 15.39-41,47,49

3. The change in our bodies is here compared to an earthly tent (now) and an eternal house (then). What does this suggest about the change of experience of being in our 'heavenly bodies'?

### Please read 2 Corinthians 5.2-3; 1 Corinthians 15.42,50,53

4. How will our bodies be 'clothed' at the resurrection? And what are the implications for our experience of life then?

# Please read 2 Corinthians 5.4; 1 Corinthians 15.54-55,57

5. What do you think it means that, in our new heavenly bodies, we will be 'swallowed up with life'? And how might this change the experience of our lives?

# Please read 2 Corinthians 5.5-8

God has made His purposes known to us. He also personally guarantees its achievement.

6. How does Paul's secure understanding of these truths give him confidence in life now? How does these truths give you confidence in life now?

### Please read 2 Corinthians 5.9-10; 1 Corinthians 15.58

Our bodies were made by God... and are being gloriously renewed by God.

7. Why is Paul's life goal, and sense of accountability to God spot on? What can we learn from this?