

A. Make Sure You Are Building With What Lasts.

1. Heaven is not a Reward, but it is a Place of Rewards.

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast.

Ephesians 2:8-9

Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. ²⁰ But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Matthew 6:19-21

2. Recognize the difference between “Hay & Straw” and “Gold & Silver.”

If any man builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, ¹³ his work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each man’s work.

1 Corinthians 3:12-13

3. Build with what lasts. Live for Eternal Reward.

If what he has built survives, he will receive his reward. ¹⁵ If it is burned up, he will suffer loss; he himself will be saved, but only as one escaping through the flames. 1 Corinthians 3:14-15

“The greatest thought that has ever entered my mind is that one day I will stand before a Holy GOD and Give an Account of my Life.”
Daniel Webster

“How we Live our Days is... how we Live our Lives.”

Annie Dillard

Build For Eternal Rewards

1 Corinthians 3:1-15

A. Remember: There Is A Day Of Judgment Coming.

1. The Great White Throne Judgment.

Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. Earth and sky fled from his presence, and there was no place for them. And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life.

¹⁵ If anyone’s name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

Revelation 20:11-12a & 15

2. The Judgment Seat of Christ.

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive what is due him for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.

2 Corinthians 5:10

But I tell you that men will have to give account on the day of judgment for every careless word they have spoken.

Matthew 12:36

For the Son of Man is going to come in his Father’s glory with his angels, and then he will reward each person according to what he has done. Matthew 16:27

A. Join In GOD’s Great Building Project.

For we are God’s fellow workers; you are God’s field, God’s building. By the grace God has given me, I laid a foundation as an expert builder, and someone else is building on it. But each one should be careful how he builds.

1 Corinthians 3:9-10

1. It’s a Team Effort.

I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God made it grow. ⁷ So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow. The man who plants and the man who waters have one purpose, and each will be rewarded according to his own labor.

1 Corinthians 3:6-8

2. There is Only One Foundation - Jesus Christ.

For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 3:11

Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

John 14:6

Faith@Home

Commit yourself to spending time with GOD and His Word on at least five days this week. Read the Bible passage(s) listed. Ask GOD for understanding. Reflect on the verses you read and write down your answers to the question(s). Pray that GOD will guide you to walk in his Word.

Day One

Read 1 Corinthians 3:15

1. Verse 9 states that we are “GOD’s field,” “GOD’s Building.” What do you think these word pictures are meant to tell us?
2. According to verse 11, there is no other foundation than Jesus Christ. What does this mean to you?
3. Are you building your life on this foundation?

Day Two

Read 1 Corinthians 3:1-15

1. We are all part of GOD’s great “building project.” What are examples of “wood, hay, and straw?”
2. What are examples of “gold, silver, and costly stones?”
3. What “building material” are you building with? What is GOD saying to you through this passage?

Day Three

Read 2 Corinthians 5:6-10 and Matthew 12:36

1. What does the thought that we will all stand before the judgment seat of Christ someday mean to you?
2. Our heavenly rewards will be based on what we do with the life and opportunities GOD gives us. How important is it to you to be working for rewards in heaven instead of the things that our culture tells us are important to have?
3. How is this influencing your choices at this point in your life?

Day Four

Read Matthew 6:19-21

1. What does it mean to lay up treasures on earth? What will happen to them?
2. What does it mean to you to lay up treasures in heaven?
3. What are some of the things you are doing to lay up treasures in heaven?

Day Five

Read Psalm 30

1. Can you identify with the words and feelings of this Psalm?
Has there been a time in your life when this kind of thing has happened?
2. Reflect on verses 11& 12. Has GOD done this in your life?
3. Pray for our worship gathering on Sunday.