

A THEOLOGY OF

DEATH

PURPOSE, PREPARATION, AND HOPE

WEEK FIVE: LIVING IN LIGHT OF DEATH

Is it possible for us to think of death in a way that actually shapes the way we live now? As Paul awaits his imminent death, he reflects on the course of his life while writing to the younger Timothy in Ephesus, describing his life as a drink offering poured out in worship to God. The life we are given should be lived with death in view; it is a good fight and each of us have been given our own unique course to run faithfully as a part of God's mission.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How has the reality of your own future death shaped you as you've grown? In what ways has it begun to shape the way you live life now?
2. Which "third" of life would you place yourself in? How should being in that particular third of life shape the overall focus of your life?
3. The idea that our lives can be "poured out" as a drink offering to God, serving as worship to Him, is foreign to most of us. Are you participating in the "pouring out" of your own life? Is your life being "poured out" more for your own comfort or for God's overarching mission?
4. Paul's six-word memoir was simply: "I have fought the good fight." When you come to the end of your life, what would you want your own six-word memoir to be?

COMMIT TO MEMORY

⁷ I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, and I have remained faithful.

⁸ And now the prize awaits me—the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give me on the day of his return. And the prize is not just for me but for all who eagerly look forward to his appearing. — 2 Timothy 4:7-8