Swallowed up by life

2 Corinthians 5:1-5

1. Intro
   1. It may appear that the challenges of this world may swallow us up
   2. But we serve a God that is bigger than that.
   3. Though we feel the pressure of this world, we also know the promises of God: LIFE ETERNAL
   4. Allow LIFE to overwhelm you today!
   5. Like a tsunami coming towards your heart, LIFE is ready to swallow up that which is mortal.
2. Text
   1. Verse 1
      1. The earthly tent is meant to be temporary
      2. We have a building from God to take its place that is eternal
   2. Verse 2
      1. We groan…yep
      2. We long for our heavenly experience
   3. Verse 3
      1. We are not found naked…unprotected
      2. We have eternal protection from God waiting on us
   4. Verse 4
      1. We groan…again…yep
      2. We are clothed with righteousness from Jesus
      3. What is mortal is swallowed up by life
         1. That which seems so real and permanent is overwhelmed by life
         2. The mortal is passing, the real is lasting
   5. Verse 5
      1. God has prepared this for us
      2. God has given us this great honor of His presence
      3. And has given us His Spirit as a guarantee!
3. Point
   1. We Groan
      1. to make or “be” in straits, i.e. to sigh, murmur, pray inaudibly:—with grief, groan, grudge, sigh.
      2. When we don’t have the words to express our heart, we groan, and God knows.
      3. We groan, but we do not lose hope or heart
         1. I refer you back to 2 For 4:16: We do not lose heart
         2. To groan and struggle is certainly natural and common, but we also rest in the promises of God
         3. Last week: Promise, Presence, Permanence
      4. What causes you to groan?
         1. Physical world problems?
         2. Spiritual world problems?
         3. Lacking things?
         4. Pandemics?
         5. Tensions?
         6. Change?
         7. The perceived silence of God?
   2. We Wait
      1. Waiting does not imply a lack of activity
      2. We wait, while we work
      3. What does Godly waiting look like: preparation
      4. As you wait:
         1. You have a job to do, use your gifts to reach your neighbors
         2. Have you shared your faith with anyone lately?
         3. Have you invited someone to join with you at church?
         4. Have you offered to study the scriptures with anyone?
      5. We wait, be waiting is not resting, and not laziness
      6. Lessons learned at the paint store:
         1. I had a customer coming…I was waiting by the front counter
         2. Boss come through and asks what I’m doing
         3. I say waiting on a customer
         4. He replies, While you are waiting, go unload the truck.
   3. We Trust
      1. He is our guarantee
      2. He is our righteousness
      3. He has given us His Spirit as a guarantee:
         1. The Work of the Spirit is comfort
         2. The work of the Spirit is conviction
         3. The Work of the Spirit is encouragement
         4. The work of the Spirit us challenge
         5. The Work of the Spirit is equipping
         6. The Work of the Spirit is direction
         7. The work of the Spirit is illumination
         8. The work of the Spirit is education
         9. The work of the Spirit is security
         10. The Work of the Spirit is counsel
         11. The work of the Holy Spirit is understanding
4. Close