

Family TableTalk

Conversation 20

Eternal Mindfulness

read

1 Peter 1:3-9

think

Today our family should be gathered in my daughter's college town for her graduation. Next weekend, the festivities were to continue, only then in celebration of my son graduating from high school. Two graduations in 2020 was going to make for a busy, fun spring. But as we all know with COVID-19 everything changed.

The disappointment and grief so many of us are experiencing over cancelled plans is valid. And, the Lord invites us to fully express our emotions to him. But I wonder if in part, the reason we feel so cheated from the events we looked forward to is because our lives are so wrapped up in what's fleeting that we've lost sight of the alternative reality of our passage.

Peter calls us to look beyond what we see. Your sports season, prom, graduation, your birthday, time with friends - they all may have been cut short or cancelled - but there is something so much better, and it will never be taken away. For those who are in Christ, we have saved for us an eternal seat in glory. And unlike the passing joy experienced after a win, a fun night, a big event, the splendor of heaven will never subside. So, when things are not the way we imagined, when we struggle, and face hardship, look up. Fix your eyes on the hope of heaven knowing only eternity in the presence of Christ can ever fully, perfectly satisfy.

apply

- Where do you stand now in processing the loss of activities and events?
- Name a time of great joy. Do you remember how long the elation lasted? Compare and discuss that experience with what Peter says about our inheritance.
- Even though _____ (fill in the blank with a disappointment), what truths can help you form an eternal mindset?

pray

Lord, help us to fix our gaze on you, to remember that in this life we will have trouble and what we seek to satisfy us fully can only give us a taste of what we will one day experience forever in heaven with you.

by Kristen Hatton

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