



## February 6 and 9 Steve Cuss

### **PRIMARY SCRIPTURES:**

#### **Eccl. 3: 11**

He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end.

#### **Rom. 12:1-2**

Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will

#### **1 Corinthians 9:25** says,

Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last; but we do it to get a crown that will last forever.

#### **Rom. 5:3**

Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; 4 perseverance, character; and character, hope. 5 And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

### **DISCUSSION:**

This week, rather than questions, we are posting the slides from the sermon and inviting you to reflect on and discuss them.

SLIDE: 1st C Discipleship: formed by culture, internal and external expectation like we are.

SLIDE: 21st C Discipleship: Still a death sentence.

SLIDE: 21st C discipleship training vs trying

SLIDE: 21st C Discipleship: Still growth through life transitions and trials, not just regular meetings.

SLIDE: Palette of spiritual growth environments: Birth, 1st day of school, baptism, graduation, engagement/ marriage, a geographical move, change or loss of a job, hospitalization, long term illness or addiction, infidelity, divorce, empty nest, retirement, death

SLIDE: Trees only bear fruit in one season, yet all 4 seasons are needed for fruit.