

“And if our hope in Christ is only for this life, we are more to be pitied than anyone in the world.” 1

Corinthians 15:19 NLT

lectio // 1 Corinthians 15:19-28

I really love life! I love my life, well at least I do since Christ transformed me at fifteen years old. But the way I see people act, specifically believers, I wonder if we truly believe this life, this time, this existence is TEMPORARY. I like how Eugene Peterson paraphrased it, “If all we get out of Christ is a little inspiration for a few short years, we’re a pretty sorry lot.” We try to stuff SO much into our tents and temporary season! Life is precious, it’s unique, and sometimes I wonder if the angels are jealous because of its drama! But holy wow, it is not the end! Our destination isn’t toys or house-flips, bucket-lists or selfish pleasure, it’s ETERNITY with the creator of all that exists. When believers die, young or old, it is not the end of their story, it’s truly the beginning of sons of wonder and beauty, love, life and laughter with God himself. It’s long walks and long chats with Jesus without waiting for an appointment to see him! It’s catching up with friends without gossip, envy, jealousy or anger. It’s being in and surrounded by the most honest, deepest love relationships - fully knowing and being fully known! Shame, guilt, petty, stupid relational games don’t exist because our selfish sin won’t be there. So, this life, yeah it’s okay, it’s pretty cool. But it is bland, colorless and dull compared to the life we will be living. So kick the bucket-list over and start thinking about eternity.

oratio

pray as responding to the words, phrase, sentence that God has stirred within you

Dad,

If I had a bucket list, I would want it to be filled with something I can take with me into eternity. I love mountains and beaches and beautiful scenery, but I want my bucket to be filled with people’s redemptive stories that you allowed me to be a part of. Those people and their stories will live on after this little blip on the dark planet passes. Help me live that life!

contemplatio

rest in the presence of God, allowing the words revealed to take root