

**Week Four: “Made To Last Forever”**  
**Day One: “This Life is Not All There Is”**

**Read:** Colossians 3:1-3 (Freedom in Christ Bible p. 1378)

**Read:** *Purpose- Driven Life* pp. 36-38a

**Reflect:** If eternity is our ultimate destination, what effect does that fact have on your everyday living?

**Dig:** How does the “since then” connect with the previous paragraph? Pay special attention to the “since you died” line of verse 20.

What does it mean to “set our minds on things above?” See Philippians 3:19-20 (Freedom in Christ Bible p. 1370) and Philippians 4:8 for a biblical answer to this question.

How could the truth of Colossians 3:4 help us to live with greater patience and less resentment? See Romans 12:17-21 (Freedom in Christ Bible p. 1295) for a biblical answer to this question.

**Apply:** Ask God to help you set your heart and mind on things above today. Reflect on how that might change the way you make decisions.

**Week Four: “Made To Last Forever”**  
**Day Two: “Eternity in Our Hearts”**

**Read: Ecclesiastes 3:1-11 (Freedom in Christ Bible p. 734)**

**Read: Commentary in Freedom in Christ Bible p. 735**

**Reflect: What is the most significant thing you have participated in?**

**Dig: What does it mean that “...God set eternity in the hearts of men”?  
See Romans 1:19-20 (p. 1279) for a biblical answer to this question.**

**Look up I Corinthians 3:10-15 (p. 1307) for more teaching on significance. What do you learn from this passage?**

**Read the “Freedom Point” on p. 734. How does the author tie this text into freedom for the believer? Do you agree?**

**Apply: Make a list of the things and events that you attach significance to which are of no account in the end. Ask God to free you from the bondage of such thinking.**

**Week Four: “Made To Last Forever”**

**Day Three: “What is Eternity in Heaven Like?”**

**Read:** I Corinthians 2:9 (Freedom in Christ Bible p. 1306)

**Read:** *Purpose -Driven Life* pp. 38a-40

**Reflect:** When you try to imagine what heaven will be like, what images come to your mind?

**Dig:** How do the verses which follow 1 Cor. 2:9, that is verses 10-15, help you understand the point the author is making?

**1 Cor. 2:9 is actually a quotation from Isaiah 64:4 (Freedom in Christ Bible p. 822). Read this passage in its context (vs. 1-5). How does this widen your understanding of what awaits us at the close of history?**

**Apply:** What is it about your current life and its satisfactions or comforts that may be keeping you from setting your mind and heart in the right place?

**Week Four: “Made to Last Forever”**  
**Day Four: “Present Sufferings”**

**Read:** Romans 8:18-25 (Freedom in Christ Bible p. 1290)

**Read:** Purpose- Driven Life last paragraph of chapter 4, p. 40

**Reflect:** What is it about the state of your body or the state of the earth (environment) that makes it seem like we won’t last forever?

**Dig:** Who is the “one” who has subjected creation to frustration? That, whoever it was did it “in hope” – see vs. 20.

What is the image that Paul uses to help us understand this “frustration”? See verse 22.

How does that nudge help you to understand what is to come?

How is our “adoption”, verse 23, described?  
When will this adoption happen?

**Apply:** Form a prayer about your own body – and its aches and pains and eventual decay – such that you trust the truths of this passage of scripture.

**Week Four: “Made to Last Forever”**

**Day Five: “Thinking About My Purpose”**

Using the “Lectio Divina” method of Bible study, (see page 2 of this booklet), meditate on this scripture:

**“The world is fading away, along with everything it craves. But if you do the will of God, you will live forever.” I John 2:17 (NLT)**

Lectio Divina (a Latin expression which means Sacred reading) is done in three stages:

- reading: you read the passage slowly and reverentially, allowing the words to sink into your consciousness: after you have memorized the text, write down one word which strikes you and draws your attention and note why you chose that word.
- Meditation: you allow the passage to stir up memories of events or conversations or other scripture passages.
- Prayer: you allow the meditation to lead you to pray – thanksgiving, humility and petition. Write out a prayer based on the passage.