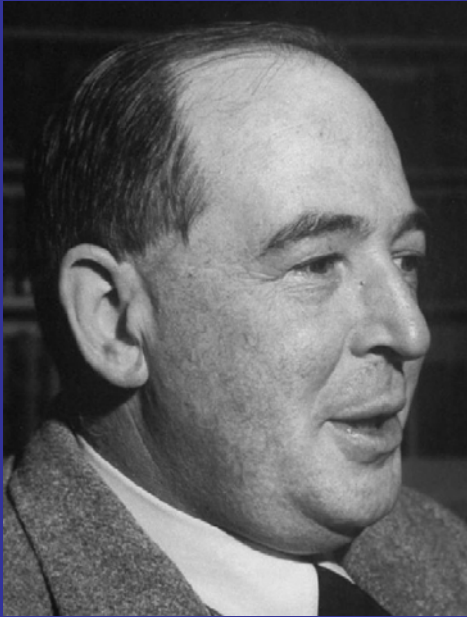


We Serve in Hope

2 Corinthians 4:16 – 5:6



CS Lewis

“Christians who do most for this present world are those who think most about the next.”

The struggles of service (4: 7-9)

- Hard-pressed = living under pressure from all sides
- Perplexed = being unclear which way to turn
- Persecuted
- Struck down

Paul identifies three supernatural resources:

- the presence of Jesus.
- the work of the Holy Spirit
- the hope of glory

The hope of glory

- The certainty of hope
- The characteristics of hope
 - Life is like a nomadic existence.
 - Life is like a suit of clothes.
 - Life is like being away from home.
- The consequences of hope
 - our effectiveness is not dependent on us
 - we belong to God
 - our suffering is beneficial for others
 - future eternal glory puts suffering in perspective