

Message Study Guide

(Scriptures & quotes from this week's message are available on thorncreek.church/live)

Warming up

1. How would you define hope?
 - o What is something you are hoping for in this season of your life?

Digging Deeper & Application

Take your time reading the scripture given. If possible look up the verses in different versions and pause at each verse and discuss it.

READ 1 Peter 1:3-7

2. How would you explain verse 3 to someone who is brand new to their faith?
3. According to these verses, how should we respond to events that challenge us spiritually?

READ Philippians 2:1-2

4. Do you feel like the (BIG C) CHURCH does this well in our world today?
5. In a world where we are more connected than ever before, but more shallow in our relationships than ever before, have we lost sight of these verses? How so?

READ Psalm 42:5

6. How is your soul doing during this season of your life?
7. What things are you doing regularly to take care of your soul?
8. When your soul is downcast, do you live with a mentality of hope, or despair? In what ways do you take care of your soul during those times?

READ Jeremiah 29:10-14

9. How does verse 10 change the meaning of verse 11 for you?
10. The Israelites were told by God that they were going to be in exile for 70 years because of their sin and their way of life. But, God had great plans for them. What does this teach us about life, struggle, and hope in the midst of it all?
11. Does this give you a new perspective on life, struggle, and hope?

12. Verses 12-14 are a great reminder to us about the importance of seeking God in all seasons of life...And, here, we discover that God wants us to seek Him with all of our heart. What does this say about the importance of a regular, intentional devotional life?
13. Can a person be a follower of Christ and not seek Him with all their heart? What does that life with Christ look like versus someone who is seeking God daily?
14. How can you be better at seeking God like these verses explain? What is one simple thing you can do this week to better live this out?

As you close, read Isaiah 40:28-31 out loud 3 times. But read it slowly, allow these words to metabolize in your soul. Then share how God is speaking to you through this passage.

Application

Below are some of the points or quotes shared in the message.
Discuss how they apply to your life.

- Hope is a state of anticipation for something better.
- PEOPLE NEED TO KNOW THAT THERE IS A LIGHT IN THIS WORLD AND THAT LIGHT DIED ON A CROSS TO BRING US REDEMPTION, FREEDOM FROM SIN AND LIFE! HOPE DOES IN FACT EXIST! And HOPE is found in JESUS!
- “We were created to overcome fear, to be cultivators of courage, to be carriers of hope, and to radically love others within a world that is always changing.” - Karen Sawrey
- We ought to ENCOURAGE one another in the LOVE OF CHRIST and BRING HOPE to the HOPELESS!!
- “Sometimes God allows you to hit rock bottom so that you will discover he is the rock at the bottom.” - Tony Evans
- Because of JESUS we can now have LIFE ABUNDANTLY. We have HOPE!
- HOPE HAS A NAME...And this HOPE is unlike any other...Our ONE TRUE HOPE is in JESUS CHRIST!!