



WEEK 3 - Upgrade Your Hope

REVIEW FROM LAST WEEK:

Did you start 30 days of prayer using the PACT (Purpose, Ask, Confess, Thanksgiving) method this week?

CONTENT:

How would you define hope?

How would you describe yourself on a scale from pessimist - realist - optimist? Explain.

Do you find it hard to be hopeful? Why or why not?

What allows you to stay positive when circumstances seem hopeless?

Read Rev 1:9-11.

Why did John write the Book of Revelation?

LEADERS NOTE: He was told to write what he saw to give Hope to believers of what is to come.

What 3 things does John say he is a partaker in?

What suffering is John partaking in?

LEADERS NOTE: John has been exiled on the Island of Patmos for his faith in Jesus and service to the kingdom.

What suffering is John's audience going through?

LEADERS NOTE: Caesar Nero blamed the fire that destroyed Rome on the Christians and thus created justification for Rome to persecute them!

What suffering are you going through presently?

LEADERS NOTE: All suffering involves the loss of something: health, financial stability, marriage, a friendship. Which means suffering is inevitable.

So where can you find hope in the midst of suffering?

Read Romans 5:3-5, 15:13.

Why is hope in Jesus different than hope in anything else?

LEADERS NOTE: Jesus is the only thing we can put our hope in that we cannot lose. This is why our hope must be found in Him! If suffering is the byproduct of loss and we can't lose Jesus then Jesus is actually a source of hope because no matter what happens we always have Him.

How is God's presence with you a source of hope?

How is the love of Jesus for you a source of hope?

How is eternal life a source of hope?

How is Jesus second coming a source of hope?

How does hope in these 4 areas change the way you look at your current circumstances?

APPLICATION:

The proper application to a study like this is not to do but rather to believe more deeply in the truths that we have discussed. When you are tempted to despair this week remind yourself of where your hope resides and rejoice in God's presence, His love, His return, and your eternal home!

PRAYER:

Oh God, thank you for giving us the Book of Revelation that tells us what is to come. May we read it and apply it to our lives so that we can find real Hope in you. We praise you because you are no longer dead but you are alive. We praise you because you are the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last. In Jesus name, Amen.