



July 5, 2015

Why We Need Hope

2 Corinthians 1:8-11; Romans 4:18-25;

Romans 5:1-6

Discuss:

[Q] Sermon Response: What insight, principle or observation from this weekend's message did you find to be:

Most helpful? Eye opening? Troubling? Challenging? Explain.

Is there any action you want to take as a result of the worship time or message?

[Q] What kinds of things do people look to (other than God and faith) in order to have hope in their lives?

[Q] What happens when we have lost hope or our hope is fragile? What does someone look like when they are losing hope? Why is hope so important?

It is helpful to distinguish among

- the basis of hope (the reason one hopes)
- the object of hope (what one hopes in)
- the activity of hoping

Paul's Object of Hope

Read 2 Corinthians 1:8-11.

[Q] Can you relate to Paul's hopelessness in verse 8 and 9b? If so, how?

[Q] How did God use affliction and despair to change the object of hope in Paul's life?

Abraham's Basis of Hope

Read Romans 4:18-25.

[Q] Describe Abraham's faith from verses 20-21.

[Q] What is the reason or basis for Abraham's hope?

[Q] What facts should have discouraged Abraham?

[Q] What promises of God do you need to review this week and set your hope in? Explain.

We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure.
Hebrews 6:19 NIV

Our Hope

Read Romans 5:1-6.

[Q] The hope Paul describes is not a speculative thing. It is a joyful expectation. Why?

[Q] What is the process God uses to build hope into us?

[Q] Have you experienced this process in your life? Please share with the group.

Note: In Romans 5:5-6, notice the activity of the Trinity in this hope producing process!

Pray using Psalm 33:16-22.
