

Hope

DISCIPLESHIP QUESTIONS

Opening

1. The sermon's big line is "You either have it to share, or you need it." Which side of that line are you on right now — and has that changed in the last year?

Hope Is Honest (Lamentations 3:1–20)

2. Jeremiah's lament is raw — darkness, chains, prayers seemingly shut out. Why do you think we're often uncomfortable bringing that kind of honesty to God, or to each other?

3. The sermon said faith does not require us to pretend everything is fine. What does honest faith look like in a hard season, and how is it different from losing faith?

4. Is there a part of Jeremiah's lament (vv. 1–20) that sounds like something you've felt but never said out loud?

Daring to Hope (Lamentations 3:21–33)

5. Jeremiah's turn starts with memory: "Yet I still dare to hope when I remember this." What has God done in your past that you need to remember on purpose right now?

6. "His mercies begin afresh each morning." Why do you think mercy is pictured as daily? What would change if you actually started each morning expecting fresh mercy?

7. Hope ≠ optimism: optimism says everything will turn out exactly how I want; hope says God remains faithful whatever happens. Where have you seen those two confused — in yourself or in the church? Which one are you holding right now?

God Is Still God (John 16:33)

8. "Circumstances change. God's character does not." Which of God's characteristics do you find easiest to trust in trouble — and which is hardest?

9. Jesus promises trouble *and* peace in the same breath. How can both be true at the same time in a real life?

Hope Takes On Flesh (Matthew 25:31–40)

10. Sometimes hope looks like a meal, a ride, a phone call, a listening ear, showing up. Which of those have you received from someone when you needed it most — and which comes most naturally for you to give?

11. In Matthew 25, the righteous didn't even know they were serving the King. What does that tell us about how ordinary, unnoticed acts of care matter to God?

Receiving Hope

12. The sermon said receiving help is not weakness — prayer, rest, friendship, counseling, medical care. Which of those is hardest for you to accept, and why?

13. The invitation was: if you have hope, share it; if you need hope, receive it. What's one practical step you'll take this week — one person you'll notice and help, or one person you'll honestly tell that you need hope?