

Hope: Our Confident Expectation

July 30, 2023

Text: Romans 8:18-25

Introduction:

BIG IDEA: Things are not the way they are supposed to be...PUT YOUR _____ IN GOD!

Truth #1 - God's _____ is far better than any pain now (v.18)

- "Consider" – a term used to _____
- "not worth comparing"; Literal translation "according to an extraordinary degree, to an extraordinary degree"
- God makes great promises and He will keep all of them.

Truth #2 - All _____ waits for the promised future, and _____ do too (vv.19-21)

- Creation waits with eager _____.
- Creation subjected to _____ or frustration.
 - God is the one who did the "subjecting."
 - Futility is promised for every human effort to fix the sin problem that plagues the planet.
- Creation will be _____. (Isaiah 11:6-9 gives us a glimpse of God's promised future for all of his creation)

Truth #3 – God meets us in our "groanings" and gives us _____ in Jesus (vv. 22-25)

- Wish is like _____
- Hope is like _____

Psalm 62:5–6

For God alone, O my soul, wait in silence,
for my hope is from him. He only is my rock
and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be
shaken.

Truth into Action

- Think rightly about suffering so that you can grow through it rather than be destroyed by it.
- Believe God's promises now, the benefits will be forever.



Please understand we want to help you know Jesus personally and journey with you in taking fresh steps of obedience daily. We would love to pray with you and for you. Join us at the end of the service for prayer or send us your request on the Connect Card and we will lift them up throughout the week.

Table Talk

Warm Up: What's the difference between a "wish" and a Christian's "hope" in Christ?

1. In what areas of your life is the pain of the Fall and curse most frustrating right now (e.g., physical or mental health, a loved one is sick or dying, things simply keep breaking and falling apart)?
2. How can you welcome the Holy Spirit to help you process and push through your pains and problems (e.g., time in prayer, worship, Scripture, talking with wise counsel)?
3. In what areas are you needing to grow in patience right now?
4. What lessons can you learn from pregnancy and birth that will help make sense of the pain and suffering you experience in this life?
5. Think about someone who has lost hope and perhaps his faith in Christ because of trials. How would you use the truth of this text to help such a person?

Closing Prayer: My suffering and pain are real and hard But Lord, You are stronger and greater. Help me to wait on you in hope. Amen!