

Looking for a Group to connect and dive deeper in your relationship with God and others? Contact Community Pastor, Beth Yokley, at byokley@myhope.church.



Discussion Questions With Emily LeVault

Week 7

Matthew 23:29-32

"We wouldn't have taken part in killing the prophets." The Pharisees of the day (like many of us) think they would have avoided the sins of their predecessors. What spiritual legacies have been passed down to you—both faithful and broken ones?

As Jesus mentions the “ancestors” of the people He’s speaking to, consider your own spiritual heritage. What do you want to continue? What do you want to leave behind?

I think the modern version of this verse would be "It ran in the family until it ran into me." It's a great saying—but without Jesus? I believe it's nothing more than fodder for your social media feed. In our heart of hearts, we each know our own shortcomings, the patterns we cannot seem to fight our way out of, passed down generation after generation. Do you hesitate to let go of the familiar? What is Jesus' solution for this generational cycle?

Jesus confronts people who'd rather venerate dead prophets than follow a living Savior. As we approach Good Friday, what makes it safer to admire Jesus' sacrifice than to actually die to self? Be specific—is it your schedule, a relationship, or habits you're still making excuses for? [maybe you get angry, but not as bad as your dad did; maybe you can hold a grudge, but nowhere near the way your mother has; maybe you don't love your neighbor all that well, but your grandparents were racist, so you're doing better than them]

As we approach the pinnacle of the Christian calendar, consider it the beginning of a new year. Good Friday is our moment as a church to not shy away from all of the pain and evil in our broken world. You don't have to answer this one out loud... but what in your life is too heavy to carry until next Easter? If Jesus reached out his hands to you, willing to take any pain, any burden, any mistake, any dark, horrid, secret—what is it that you need relief from? What will you bring to the foot of the cross this Good Friday? An old wound? A renewed commitment? A hopeless situation? An Impossible Prayer? A relationship you need to put in God's hands? A broken heart?

Leader Note: take a moment to let people pair up and share if they feel comfortable. Even if they don't, have them pair up and pray for one another's request. This is a great set up for this week's Real Time/Real Talk topic of confession. M