SEQUOIA NOTES

Today's Sequoia @10:10 Message...

Hope in Disappointment

With Ryan Dawson, Lead Pastor September 20, 2020



Romans 5:3-5 (NLT) "We can rejoice, too, when we run into problems and trials, for we know that they help us develop endurance. 4 And endurance develops strength of character, and character strengthens our confident hope of salvation. 5 And this hope will not lead to disappointment. For we know how dearly God loves us, because he has given us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with his love."

Where do we go when we are wrestling with disappointment?

How do we maintain a posture of hope in the midst of the disappointments in life?

Proverbs 13:12 (NIV) "Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but a longing fulfilled is a tree of life."

Jeremiah 17:7-8 (NLT) "But blessed are those who trust in the Lord and have made the Lord their hope and confidence. ⁸ They are like trees planted along a riverbank, with roots that reach deep into the water. Such trees are not bothered by the heat or worried by long months of drought. Their leaves stay green, and they never stop producing fruit."

• Our longings are ultimately <u>fulfilled</u> in Christ.

"Thou hast made us for thyself, O Lord, and our heart is restless until it finds its rest in thee." St. Augustine

Galatians 3:13-14 (NLT) "But Christ has rescued us from the curse pronounced by the law. When he was hung on the cross, he took upon himself the curse for our wrongdoing. For it is written in the Scriptures, "Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree." 14 Through Christ Jesus, God has blessed the Gentiles with the same blessing he promised to Abraham, so that we who are believers might receive the promised Holy Spirit through faith."

Heartache is not <u>wasted</u> in the Kingdom.

Big Idea: Let's trust God in heartache & fulfillment as we long for Christ's return.

The Translation of the Bible Scriptures used in today's 10:10 service is from the New International Version (NIV) and the New Living Translation (NLT).



Sequoia Impact Communities are where we live out our identity as a Family of Servants on Mission.

To get plugged in email:

impactcommunities@sequoiachurch.org

Hope in Disappointment #4 of 6 - Sept. 20, 2020

- 1) Take some time to discuss how your IC has been and will live out the Kingdom of Jesus together.
- In what ways have we been living like family recently? How will we live out our family identity in the coming week?
- How have we lived as servants to one another or to our world this past week? What needs or opportunities to serve is God is asking us to lean into?
- How have we lived on mission where we live, work, play, or went this past week?
 Who do we know that needs to hear the good news of Jesus?
- 2) How did the message resonate with you? What questions or comments did it raise for you?
- 3) Share about a time when you experienced disappointment. Why was this hard for you? What did you learn from this experience?
- 4) Read Proverbs 13:12. Why does a "deferred hope" make the "heart sick"?
- 5) Read Jeremiah 17:7-8 and Psalm 1. How does the image of a vibrant tree illustrate a fulfilled longing?
- 6) Read Galatians 3:13-14. How does the "tree" spoken of in this passage provide our ultimate hope? Read Romans 5:3-5. What is God saying to you in this regard?
- 7) Why is our hope not disappointed in the presence of the Holy Spirit? What are the implications for us as believers now, and in light of eternity? How does this encourage you today?

Reflection: (As individuals or as an Impact Community).

- Take some time to share your disappointment & heartache with Jesus. Allow God to meet you in your heartache & to give you His love, comfort, and courage.
- Record or share the things you are hoping for today. Prayerfully evaluate these "hopes" before the Lord to ensure they are in line with His will. Commit these hopes to the Lord.
- Focus on your ultimate hope in Christ by reflecting on the following verses. Revelation 22, 1 John 5:13-14, 1 Peter 1:3-6, Ephesians 2:8-10, 2 Corinthians 4:16-18, John 4:13-14.



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