

**Message:** Easter- The Power of Hope

**Scripture:** 1 Corinthians 15:1-10

## WHAT ARE YOU HOPING FOR?

*"One of the funny things was that after they got famous, if anything, they were more unhappy, angry, and mean than they had been before, because that giant thing they were striving for, that fame thing that was going to make everything okay and was going to provide them with fulfillment and happiness, had happened, and nothing changed. They were still them." NY Times Columnist*

*"If there were nothing eternal in a man, he could not despair." Soren Kierkegaard*

God has set eternity in the heart of man. Ecclesiastes 3:11

*Now, brothers and sisters, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain. For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried... 1 Corinthians 15:1-4*

## TWO BIG REASONS FOR PUTTING OUR HOPE IN THE GOSPEL OF JESUS

### 1. THIS GOOD NEWS IS HISTORICAL.

*...was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures and that he appeared to Cephas, and then to the Twelve. After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers and sisters at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James then to all the apostles, and last of all he appeared to me also... 1 Corinthians 15:5-8*

### 2. THE PROBLEM WITH THE HUMAN RACE WAS THAT THEY WERE STILL THEM.

*...and last of all he appeared to me also, as to one abnormally born. For I am the least of the apostles and do not even deserve to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. 1 Corinthians 15:8-10*

*Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God... 1 Timothy 6:17*