

Isaiah 40

Main Idea: To those who are hurting, Christianity offers hope.

Series – Monuments

Today we introduce a series of messages entitled "Monuments." Sometimes we need to be reminded of the foundational principles of our faith. If we could drive through the Bible or take one of those guided tours like you might in Washington DC, we would come upon one monument after another to our faith. Look there's Love. Up ahead, you can see Purpose. Today we have arrived at Hope. It's a big, beautiful monument! Stop and take a look.

I'm Tired of Being Good

In Christianity, faith isn't about being good. In fact, there are times when you just get tired of being good. Weariness sets in because of the routine. We're tired and disillusioned. We've been good for a very long time. Where is the payback? Where are the results? The philosophy is as ancient as mankind. Way back in the days of Job (possibly the oldest story in the Bible) man believed that life was about goodness and that good deeds brought blessings and bad deeds brought punishment from above. This is called The Retributive Dogma (the doctrine of retribution).

1. Permission Granted – Isaiah 1:14

It's OK to get weary. God our Father even gets weary. How often the Scripture speaks of patience, hope, determination, commitment, and courage. These concepts would be useless and unnecessary if weariness did not exist. Paul wrote, "try not to get weary in doing right."

2. Perspective Gained – Isaiah 40:12-26

I understand your concern, but do you remember your God? You are about to abandon God in light of a set of temporary circumstances. Don't do it! Isaiah says, "I'm offering perspective."

3. Promise Given – Isaiah 40:27-31

Remember, God knows about me. I am significant. I can't give up now. There is the promise. There's nothing wrong with weariness, but remember to ask God for strength, not relief. Something is going to happen. The key is expectation.

In Isaiah 40, God says, "Trust Me when there is no evidence of my presence – regardless of what you see or feel. I will strengthen you."

- God gets maximum glory when we are weary, yet faithful.
- To the degree that you lean into Him you will find strength.
- Expectation is the key.

Family Night Big idea – Read Isaiah 40:21-31

- Elementary School – Ask, "How does Isaiah describe God in these verses? What is the best thing about serving God? How is God superior to other fake gods? Why should we hope in God?"
- Middle/ High School – Ask, "When we are weary, what does Isaiah want us to remember? Why do you think Isaiah describes God using this language? Why is it important to wait on God? What does God promise those who wait?"

Prayer: "Heavenly Father, sometimes we have to wait. Our hope is in You. Give us strength. Amen."

Velocity (Middle and High School Students)

Velocity: Pizza Party this Wednesday, August 6th.

Gravity: No Gravity.

Today's Songs

Blessed Be Your Name.....Matt Redman

Holy Spirit.....Jesus Culture

Open the Eyes of My Heart.....Michael W. Smith

KidsJAM Bible Trivia Night

Kids are playing Bible Trivia on Wednesday, August 13, from 6-7pm. Sign up in KidsJAM.

Kenya Christmas 2025 Donations

Their needs this year include completing construction on classroom structure, outfitting a lab, training and hiring a full-time pastor, buying several cows, and doing updates and repairs. Go online to give or write "Kenya Christmas" in the remarks line of your check.

Splash in the Boro

Tonight from 6:30-8:30. Cost is \$10 per person or \$30 per family. **Cash at the Gate Only.** Bring money for the Snack Shack! We will send out a notification if this event is cancelled because of the weather.