



DISCUSSION GUIDE

THIS WEEK: Romans 5:3-5; Romans 15:13; 1 Peter 3:15

GETTING STARTED

What has brought you peace and joy this week, despite the constant news cycle?

What are some practices that bring you closer to God?

Who is the most hopeful person you know? What actions or words do they use to express hope?

QUICK REACTIONS

How would you summarize/paraphrase the message in your own words and what point/idea resonated most with you? Why?

How has grief appeared in your life? Who has helped you through your grief? What did they do that was helpful?

How did your family of origin express grief?

QUESTIONS FROM THE MESSAGE:

“The prophetic tasks of the church are to tell the truth in a society that lives in illusion, grieve in a society that practices denial, and express hope in a society that lives in despair.” – Walter Brueggemann

Do you see these as needs in our society today?

“We become aware of hope when the outcome is at risk.” – Curt Thompson

What do you think of this quote?

EXPLORE THE PASSAGES [Romans 5:3-5; 15:13; 1 Peter 3:13-15]

Read Romans 5:3-5. What sticks out to you in this passage? What is the journey from affliction to hope? Have you or someone you know taken this path before?

Read Roman 15:13. Who is God described as? What are we filled with? What is our work in this process? What is the outcome and what overflows from us? By whose power is this accomplished?

Read 1 Peter 3:13-15. What sticks out to you in this passage? What is the connection between “regard Christ as holy” and being known as a hopeful Christian?

APPLY THE PASSAGE

What do we learn about God in these passages?

How can this help us (or others that we know) when we face being overwhelmed?

How can we pray for each other?