

## Family Group Outline – April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2026

### **WHAT'S HAPPENING AT MBC:**

1. Our monthly Church Workday is this Saturday at 8:30am. There are projects for everyone! Lunch will be provided.
2. This Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, and the following Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, we will have our Who We Are classes in the Sanctuary during the Sunday School hour.
3. Our next Communion Sunday is April 26<sup>th</sup>. As always, we will welcome new members, celebrate the Lord's supper and Baptism, and then enjoy a potluck meal. If you would like to join our church that Sunday, please reach out to Pastor Spencer.
4. To prepare for the preaching of the word on this coming Lord's Day, we would encourage you to meditate on the passage ahead of time. This Sunday's sermon will be from 1 Corinthians 14:1-25.

**WHAT WE BELIEVE:** *Of the World to Come* - We believe that the end of the world is approaching; that at the last day Christ will descend from heaven, and raise the dead from the grave to final retribution; that a solemn separation will then take place; that the wicked will be adjudged to endless punishment, and the righteous to endless joy; and that this judgment will fix forever the final state of men in heaven or hell, on principles of righteousness. 1 Pet. 4:7; 1 Cor. 7:29-31; Heb. 1:10-12; Matt. 24:35; 1 John 2:17; Matt. 28:20; 13:39-40; 2 Pet. 3:3-13; Acts 1:11; Rev. 1:7; Heb. 9:28; Acts 3:21; 1 Thess. 4:13-18; 5:1-11; Acts 24:15; 1 Cor. 15:12-59; Luke 14:14; Dan. 12:2; John 5:28-29; 6:40; 11:25-26; 2 Tim. 1:10; Acts 10:42; Matt. 13:49, 37-43; 24:30-31; 25:31-33; Matt. 25:35-41; Rev. 22:11; 1 Cor. 6:9-10; Mark 9:43-48; 2 Pet. 2:9; Jude 7; Phil. 3:19; Rom. 6:32; 2 Cor. 5:10-11; John 4:36; 2 Cor. 4:18; Rom. 3:5-6; 2 Thess. 1:6-12; Heb. 6:1-2; 1 Cor. 4:5; Acts 17:31; Rom. 2:2-16; Rev. 20:11-12; 1 John 2:28; 4:17.

**WISDOM:** "We are like a seed patiently waiting in the earth: waiting to come up a flower in the gardener's good time, up into the real world, the real waking. I suppose that our whole present life, looked back on from there, will seem only a drowsy half-waking. We are here in the land of dreams. But cock-crow is coming." - C.S. Lewis

**WORD:** "It Was Not Possible for Him to Be Held by Death", Psalm 16

#### **Suggested questions:**

1. Read Psalm 16. Was there anything that particularly challenged, impacted, or confused you from this Sunday's message?
2. How does Christ's example of hope inspire and encourage you?
3. In looking at Christ's example of hope, what deficiencies do you see in your own hope?

**DIGGING DEEPER:** Did Jesus Possess Faith and Hope?

<https://www.crossway.org/articles/did-jesus-possess-faith-and-love>

## Did Jesus Possess Faith and Hope?

*Mark Jones*

Yes, as a true man, he was filled with all spiritual virtues and graces, including faith, hope, and love.

Peter Lombard asks in his *Sentences* whether Christ had faith and hope as he had charity (love).<sup>1</sup> He comes to the conclusion that Christ did not possess faith and hope.<sup>2</sup> [But, as we] imitate Christ, the man of faith . . . I think we must say of Christ that he possessed these three theological virtues.

Being fully human, Christ had the ability to grow in his graces: “And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man” (Luke 2:52). We receive various graces from Christ, such as faith, hope, and love, because he possessed these graces preeminently in himself.

Jesus is distinguished as the pioneer of our faith since he himself had unwavering faith during the course of his life on earth (Heb. 12:2). The book of Hebrews explicitly connects faith (trust) to Christ, attributing to him these words: “I will put my trust in him” (Heb. 2:13). No one believed God’s promises and lived his or her life in light of those promises like Jesus did (Heb. 10:37–38). Though his family doubted him, his disciples abandoned him, his friend denied him, and his fellow Jews rejected him, Jesus had faith to trust his Father, who would one day (at his resurrection) vindicate him (Isa. 50:6–9). Christ no doubt loved the words of Psalm 16:1, “Preserve me, O God, for in you I take refuge.”

As one who had faith, he also necessarily had hope. He lived constantly with the hope of better things to come. His life was a life of humiliation, but he hoped for his exaltation (John 17). Unchangeable promises were made to Christ. As the faithful last Adam, Christ not only believed that he would one day be glorified in the presence of his Father at his right hand but also necessarily hoped for that day to arrive. If he did not hope for the promises made to him, then he surely was not truly human.

Christ had a particular hope in his own resurrection (see Psalm 16). He knew he would die, but he also knew he would be raised (Mark 10:33–34). In the pain and agony of Golgotha, Christ never lost hope that he would be vindicated. He never lost hope that his temporal sufferings would pale in comparison to the glory that would be given to him (see Rom. 8:18).

The threefold cord of Christ’s life was completed by love. God is love, but Christ is love covered in flesh. Everything about Christ’s life falls under the category of love. He had love for his disciples: “Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end” (John 13:1). He had love for his enemies: “And Jesus said, ‘Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do’” (Luke 23:34). He had love for the crowds of needy people (Mark 6:34–44). But he had a special love for his Father: “I do as the Father has commanded me, so that the world may know that I love the Father” (John 14:31). Indeed, he explicitly connects his love toward the Father with keeping his Father’s

commandments. Jesus could not have endured all that he endured, as the obedient Son, if he did not have love for his Father.

Christ had to have trust in his Father, hope in his Father's promises, and love for his Father in order to bestow on us those graces that are first in him. We can say with great praise that we are "so thankful for the faith, hope, and love of Christ; no hope without them."

## Psalm 16

A MIKTAM OF DAVID.

<sup>1</sup>Preserve me, O God, for in you I take refuge.

<sup>2</sup>I say to the LORD, “You are my Lord;  
I have no good apart from you.”

<sup>3</sup>As for the saints in the land, they are the excellent ones,  
in whom is all my delight.

<sup>4</sup>The sorrows of those who run after another god shall multiply;  
their drink offerings of blood I will not pour out  
or take their names on my lips.

<sup>5</sup>The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup;  
you hold my lot.

<sup>6</sup>The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;  
indeed, I have a beautiful inheritance.

<sup>7</sup>I bless the LORD who gives me counsel;  
in the night also my heart instructs me.

<sup>8</sup>I have set the LORD always before me;  
because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.

<sup>9</sup>Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices;  
my flesh also dwells secure.

<sup>10</sup>For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol,  
or let your holy one see corruption.

<sup>11</sup>You make known to me the path of life;  
in your presence there is fullness of joy;  
at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.