

SERMON DISCUSSION

APRIL 19, 2020

HOPE
FOR THE
Scattered

Questions

Even when threat scatters us, we have a uniting hope through Christ!

Hope for the Scattered: Don't Waste Your Suffering
1 Peter 3:8-18 — David Lane

WARM-UP

READ – 1 Peter 3:8-13

1. **Buckets:** David described three buckets: emotional, spiritual, and physical. Having these three buckets positively full brings wellness to us. But, stress causes emptiness. Has this time of quarantine emptied any of your buckets? If so, how?
2. It is so easy for us to drift into negativity in these days. Yet, Peter draws us towards positivity. Take each of these specific examples and admonitions given by Peter and describe how we can be intentional about making them a part of our daily lives.
3. Have you found focusing on Peter's words in chapter three helpful for filling your buckets?

DIGGING DEEPER

READ – 1 Peter 3:14-16

4. Have you or anyone close to you ever suffered for their faith, truly suffered? What was the result?
5. How can Peter be so bold in saying, "Do not fear" and "Do not be troubled"?
6. Think about the time period that Peter's letter was received by those in Turkey. Why were verses 15 and 16 so important to Peter's message to them?
7. How do these two verses apply to us and Christians around the world today?

READ – 1 Peter 3:17-18

8. David called us to look introspectively, to take inventory of our spiritual house, to inspect every room to see if we have allowed Christ total access. We all sin. It's part of our fleshly nature. Why is this process of a totally open spiritual house absolutely essential to being available to Jesus for ministry in His name?

DON'T WASTE THIS OPPORTUNITY: READ – 1 Peter 2:21-25

9. "For you have been called for this purpose..." Peter writes to the scattered. In David's words we have been "set apart" in these days for a purpose. Ephesians 4:1 implores us "to walk in a manner worthy of the calling which we have been called." In what ways have you found that you can reach out to those you know, those you love, those around you with the love of Christ? Do you have a story that would encourage others to get started?

PRAYER

First, if there are any areas of your life that you have not turned over to Christ, now is the time to take care of “cleaning your spiritual house”. This can be done privately or with a trusted confidant. Secondly, pray for each other that God will open the door of opportunity to share His Son this week with someone near you.

Just in case you missed the service here are the EAC, Facebook and YouTube links:

<http://edgewateralliance.org/media/sermon-videos>

<https://www.facebook.com/edgewateralliance/>

<https://www.youtube.com/user/dd5648>

Share your story: mystory@edgewateralliance.org

THE S.O.A.P METHOD

SOAP is a simple method to study your Bible

It's simple. Just take out your journal and start by working through a passage or chapter of Scripture. As a heading, write the reference for that passage at the top of the page, along with the date. Then, just write the first letter of the words serving as headings below, and follow the instructions that come after. Your entire SOAP should take up about one page in your journal.

SCRIPTURE: As you read through your passage of Scripture, write down the verses or sections "word for word" that really stuck out to you as memorable or interesting.

OBSERVATION: Now focus on the verses that you just wrote down in the "S" section. What do you think the author is saying in the text? What does it mean? What does it reveal as true about God? What does it reveal as true about people? Don't apply yet!

APPLICATION: Now, write down what needs to change in your life based on what you've read in this verse. Based on your observations, how should you apply this to your life? This is a really important step. Scripture does us little good unless we put it into practice.

PRAYER:

- Always use worship as the base for your prayers rather than requests
(Seek His face not just His hand)
- Allow the scripture to feed your worship.
(What does this passage reveal about Him that you celebrate and adore?)
- Ask the Spirit to lead your prayer.
(Spend time listening for His voice and prompting rather than presenting a list and doing all the talking)