



Hope Does Not Disappoint: Hope in the Face of Disappointment

April 13 & 14, 2019 – Laura Turner

Note to Leaders: Every group is different, so we are providing a summary study with additional discussion questions in the Going Deeper section. Please choose the questions that relate best to your particular group.

Follow up from last week: How did the hope of salvation and forgiveness of sins affect you this week?

Connect

- 1. What about the weekend's sermon stood out to you?
- 2. Share with the group what role hope plays in your daily life. How is your hope affected in the midst of disappointment?

Engage

1. Read 1 Corinthians 15:19.
 - What does Paul mean by "hope in Christ?"
 - Why should believers be the most pitied, if our hope in Christ was only in our current life?
2. Read Revelations 21:4.
 - What does God promise in this verse?
 - What assurance can you find in this verse for our our daily lives?

Apply

1. To what degree is your hope only for the moment and not in the light of eternity?
2. How have disappointments in your life impacted your trust in God?
3. How will you strengthen your hope in Christ?

Pray

Dearest Lord, we bring our disappointments to you and ask that you comfort us with your love. Help us to hope in you in light of eternity and know that all current disappointments are temporary. Teach us this week to trust in you more and to be a source of encouragement to those around us. In your name, Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.



Going Deeper

Connect

Share with the group how God used a disappointment in your life so that you are able to help others?

Engage

“Hope is the thing with feathers...” is a poem by Emily Dickinson, who herself had experienced many tragedies in her life.

- How is hope like a small bird (a Gale in her poem) that is ready to fly away?
- Should the Christian’s hope be this fragile? How is it different?

Apply

- Share with the group how you may be struggling with hopelessness today.
- How can our Life Group help one another grow in our hope?

Celebrate Easter with us

See [Easter](#) for locations and service times

Learning Opportunity

Read *Lament for a Son* by Nicholas Wolterstorff

Serving Opportunity

Visit menlo.church/connect/serve for ideas and information.

Personal Spiritual Practice

Read Matthew 21:1-11, the story from which we derive the name “Palm Sunday” for this Sunday that precedes Easter. The crowd is enthusiastic because they believe Jesus is the king they are waiting for, but less than a week later, their hopes are disappointed.

- How have you experienced disappointment in Jesus? How has that disappointment been a reflection of what Paul described in 1 Corinthians 15:19?
- What is the message of hope that Jesus brings to your life?

