

Lasting Hope – Pastor Andrew Kurtz February 13 & 14, 2021

- 1. Pastor Andrew began his talk by defining endurance as "the ability to withstand hardship, to continue, or to last, especially despite fatigue, stress, or other adverse conditions." When you hear the word of endurance, what do you think of? When has there been a time where you had to endure?
- Read Isaiah 40:28-31.

A "lasting hope" is hope that rests in our eternal God. How does Isaiah describe the God of whom we place our hope? What characteristics does He have that represent endurance? Have you experienced those characteristics of God?

- 3. Pastor Andrew pointed out that we can endure if we remember God doesn't have a breaking point. How can endurance help you maintain hope in difficult times? What do you turn to when you are struggling?
- 4. Pastor Andrew said that "we can have hope that endures when we start with God because we partner our unlimited ability with his unlimited power." We can invite 1. God early, 2. Make more time, and 3. Let God speak. What are you doing to access God? Which of these three things is most difficult for you?
- 5. Read Proverbs 3:5-6.

Knowing that God has a "great understanding" of all things - time, human character, thoughts, motives, emotions - should give us hope. How does knowing this about God encourage you?

- 6. Pastor Andrew pointed out that God's infinite knowledge is available for our situation. Why do you think that God knowing everything is important? How can you partner with God's infinite wisdom?
- 7. Read and discuss 1 Corinthians 9:25 and Hebrews 12:1.

The Christian life is related to a race, and God calls us to run with endurance. What are you running towards in life? What keeps you focused on that goal, and what is your next step?