

Discussion Guide for Living Hope: Part 4

1. Read Hebrews 11:1-2 and review the sermon outline.

What parts of Sunday's lesson did you find helpful, enlightening, unclear or troubling?

2. Truth: Our Christian life begins by believing God's testimony about the past, especially the message of Jesus' death and resurrection. That faith grants us God's acceptance and makes us the recipients of God's promises for the future.

For each promise below answer the questions:

What is the promise? Why does it matter? Do I believe it?

God's promises for you today about life struggles

Hebrews 13:5-6 "the Lord has said, 'I will never leave you nor forsake you.' So we can confidently say, 'The Lord is my helper; I will not fear'"

Romans 8:28 "we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

God's promises for you today about your fight against sin and Satan

Romans 6:6-14 "our old self was crucified with Christ in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin... sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace."

James 4:6-8 "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you."

God's promises for you today about usefulness and purpose

Ephesians 2:10 "we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them."

1 Corinthians 12:4-7 "there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good."

God's promises for your future

Ephesians 1:13-14 When you "believed in Christ, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it"

John 10:27-28 Jesus said, "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand."

John 14:1-3 Jesus said, "Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ² In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also."

Revelation 22:12 Jesus said, "Behold, I am coming soon, bringing my recompense with me, to repay each one for what he has done."

Revelation 3:10-11 Jesus said, "Because you have kept my word about patient endurance, I will keep you from the hour of trial that is coming on the whole world, to try those who dwell on the earth. ¹¹ I am coming soon. Hold fast what you have, so that no one may seize your crown."