

Living Hope

1 Peter 1:3-9

Feel free to use this guide “as is” or formulate it in a way that works best for your online group this week.

These three general questions will drive our discussion:

1. What did the Holy Spirit say to you through Sunday’s sermon and the associated passage?
2. What are you going to do about it?
3. How can you encourage and pray for each other to do what God told you?

Sermon: Living Hope

Text: 1 Peter 1:3-9

Sermon Summary:

This year we are celebrating Easter separately in our homes because of COVID-19, but this isn’t so different from the disciples fearful first Easter. What does it look like to put our faith in Jesus, and how can we find a complete renewal through Him?

What did the Holy Spirit say to you through the sermon?

- How did the ‘shelter-in-place’ go for you this past week?
- Read 1 Peter 1:3-9.
- Why is the resurrection of Jesus so important to our faith as Christians?
- Have you given any thought to your future resurrection with a new body and a heavenly inheritance? What are your thoughts?
- What else did God’s Spirit say to you through the sermon?
(Jesus’ resurrection gives us a new Spirit, Body, Future and Protection.)

What are you going to do about it?

- How is your faith being tested and strengthened right now? How will you deal with this?
- How is your love for Jesus growing through the COVID-19 pandemic?

How can you encourage and pray for each other to do what God told you?

- Tim shared the illustration with the three circles about moving from brokenness to God’s perfect design. How have you experienced this?

Three Circles Gospel Illustration link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5W8ynRMr59k>

- How can others in your small group encourage you and pray for you this week?
- Spend some time praying for each other.

Scripture Memory:

"Though you have not seen Him, you love Him; and even though you do not see Him now, you believe in Him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, for you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls."

1 Peter 3:8-9

COVID-19 General Applications:

Confidence in God also gives us the ability to get our eyes off ourselves so we can serve others. Let's think beyond ourselves with these simple activities:

- Pray for your family, neighbors and coworkers that God would comfort them and provide for them through these difficult times.
- Follow the direction of the CDC and local, state and federal entities. Senior Citizens and other higher-risk category people, please stay home and let others serve you during this time.
- Sign up on the HCBC website resource page to volunteer to serve someone in need at the church: <https://www.hcbc.com/coronavirus/>