




Discussion Guide
Series: Breathe wk3 Hope
November 17, 2024

Big Idea


 Hope is looking to the reality of the future as grounded by the reality of God's faithfulness in the past.

 Icebreaker


What is something about yourself that you hope will never change?

 Discussion Questions

1. Let's begin this time together by intentionally breathing. Following the "One Minute Pause" App format, take 3 breaths in silence. After you do, recite the following slowly & with intentionality:
 - "Jesus, I give everyone & everything to You."
 - "I give everyone & everything to You, God."
 - "I give myself to You, Jesus."
 - "I need more of You, God. Fill me with more of You."Take one more deep breath in & out.
2. The sermon opened with some good examples of "maxims" that remind us to not miss the present as we look forward to the future. If enjoying the 'here & now' is at one end of a continuum and 'there & then' (something you are hoping for) is at another end of the continuum, where are you on that continuum? What are the pros and cons of the position you land in?
3. Share aspects of (give an overview of) Abram's (Abraham's) & Sarai (Sarah's) life.
4. Read Hebrews 11:1. From this passage we developed the following statement in the sermon (fill in the blanks): *F_____ is grounded in the real____ of the p____; while h____ is looking to the real____ of the f_____.* We are not to be blindly optimistic, nor cynical. This is a tension to manage in life. How do you do at managing this tension, personally (with examples, if possible)?
5. Read Hebrews 11:8-16. Now, focusing on (perhaps re-reading) verses 8-10, how can *hope* give us a home when we feel untethered (like a stranger in a foreign land/when we find ourselves in an unfamiliar situation or setting)? Does this apply to an area of your life currently & if so where and how?
6. Now, focusing on (perhaps re-reading) verses 11-12, how can *hope* give us the promise that we matter? Does this apply to an area of your life currently & if so where and how?
7. Now, focusing on (perhaps re-reading) verses 13-15, how can *hope* give us the permission to let go of the past, instead of focusing on it, so that we can receive the present/future? Does this apply to an area of your life currently & if so where and how?
8. Now, focusing on (perhaps re-reading) verse 16 & reading 1 John 2:24-25, how can having a *hope* in the promise of eternal life practically help us today as we await it?

 Concluding Question

Read Romans 15:13. What does it look like to "overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit"?

 Prayer

Pray for those who have made the decision to be baptized as believers next Sunday & make plans to come to church in support & encouragement of them!