



Adult and Teen Life Groups Conferencing Guide

SERMON DATE: 11/10/2024
DISCUSSION DATE: 11/17/2024
TEXT: PSALM 42:11

HOPE IN GOD

I. WHAT IS HOPE?

A. Our usage

1. Hope is the desire for something good in the future.
2. Hope is the good thing in the future we are desiring.
3. Hope is the reason why our desire might indeed come to pass.

B. The distinct biblical meaning of hope

II. HOPE IN GOD

FOR CONFRENCING

1. (The following questions are personal; but, if you are willing, consider sharing the answers with your group.) In what ways are you most encouraged recently? In what ways are you discouraged?
2. **Read Psalm 42.** In Psalm 42, the writer felt overwhelmed and discouraged. How do you cope with those kinds of things -- discouragement, despair, depression? What do you long for when you feel overwhelmed?
3. What can you learn from the psalmist about responding to those seasons of difficulty correctly?
4. Two times in Psalm 42, the psalmist writes, "hope in God." What are some common places that people look for their hope? Which of those do you find yourself looking to most in your struggles?
5. What does it look like to hope in God? How can you practically place your hope in God the next time you face difficulty?
See Romans 15:14, Romans 8:24-25; Psalm 46:2-3, Hebrews 11:1, Titus 1:1-2, 1 John 3:3.
6. What is the role of the community of believers in helping someone who is discouraged? How does Psalm 42:4 inform your answer?
7. **Read Hebrews 6:9-12.** Why does the writer encourage the reader to press on in this passage? What will keep them faithful? How do these verses assure you? What does a full commitment to Christ look like?