



SBSG – Some Good News: Hope Has Arrived

The Purpose of a Sermon Based Small Group (to be read at the beginning of each gathering)

The purpose of our small group is to actively pursue Christ through relationships, as we worship, serve, and belong together.

READ ALOUD BY ALL (allow this prayer to shape your time together)

Dear God, help me in this dialogue to be humble & suspend judgment. I recognize that we are all created in your image. Give me courage to stay curious about each other by asking questions. Thank you, God, for this opportunity to meet together and in so doing grow closer to you. AMEN

Sermon Series: Some Good News: Hope Has Arrived

Opening question: What do you keep doing over and over again that you wish you wouldn't?

Sermon Synopsis: Due to the death of close friends in the faith community and persecution, the Church in Thessalonica was beginning to lose hope. Paul reminds them to place their hope in the resurrection of Christ as a reminder that death does not have the final say in someone's life. Paul was reminding the early Church to live lives that would be honoring to God even when the culture around them isn't.

Bible Reading

Reading the Bible is about reading for practice and spiritual formation – spiritual formation, in which the reader seeks to be formed by the Spirit of God.

Passage(s) from the sermon: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 (NLT), Romans 7:15

What questions do you have about the passages/sermon?
What do you feel God is saying to you through this passage?

Discipleship Point: hope comes from Christ

What is one life giving thing you can do that would bring hope to yourself or others?

Personal Prayer Request

Share a one or two sentence prayer request with the Small Group for this next week. Remember these prayer requests are about your life not someone else's.

(Sample Prayer)

God, we thank you for your presence with us. We lift up these requests to you knowing that you care deeply about us...we pray for _____ and _____ and (fill in prayer requests) ... God we know that you have heard our request and we release all outcomes to you and your glory. It's in your Son's name Jesus that we pray...**AMEN.**