

The Hope Found In Heaven

⁴Such things were written in the Scriptures long ago to teach us. And the Scriptures give us hope and encouragement as we wait patiently for God's promises to be fulfilled. (*Romans 15:4 NLT*)

- Talk about a scripture passage that gave you hope and encouragement.

READ a Bible verse or story

Matthew 28:16-20 (NRSV)

¹⁶Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. ¹⁷When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. ¹⁸And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

TALK about the Bible reading(s)...

- What do you believe this passage is saying?
- How does it give us hope?

Growing in faith and understanding...Imagination work!!

1 John 2:15-17(NLT)

¹⁵Do not love this world nor the things it offers you, for when you love the world, you do not have the love of the Father in you. ¹⁶For the world offers only a craving for physical pleasure, a craving for everything we see, and pride in our achievements and possessions. These are not from the Father but are from this world. ¹⁷And this world is fading away, along with everything that people crave. But anyone who does what pleases God will live forever.

1 John 3:1-3 (NLT)

¹See how very much our father loves us, for he calls us his children, and that is what we are! But the people who belong to this world don't recognize that we are God's children because they don't know him. ²Dear friends, we are already God's children, but he has not yet

shown us what we will be like when Christ appears. But we do know that we will be like him, for we will see him as he really is. ³And all who have this eager expectation will keep themselves pure, just as he is pure.

- How can focusing on what will happen when Christ comes help us?
- How would your life change should Christ return right now?

Matthew 25:14-21 (NLT)

¹⁴ "Again, the Kingdom of Heaven can be illustrated by the story of a man going on a long trip. He called together his servants and entrusted his money to them while he was gone. ¹⁵ He gave five bags of silver to one, two bags of silver to another, and one bag of silver to the last, dividing it in proportion to their abilities. He then left on his trip. ¹⁶ "The servant who received the five bags of silver began to invest the money and earned five more. ¹⁷ The servant with two bags of silver also went to work and earned two more. ¹⁸ But the servant who received the one bag of silver dug a hole in the ground and hid the master's money. ¹⁹ "After a long time their master returned from his trip and called them to give an account of how they had used his money. ²⁰ The servant to whom he had entrusted the five bags of silver came forward with five more and said, 'Master, you gave me five bags of silver to invest, and I have earned five more.' ²¹ "The master was full of praise. 'Well done, my good and faithful servant. You have been faithful in handling this small amount, so now I will give you many more responsibilities. Let's celebrate together!'

- What would the servant gain through the efforts?
- What might this tell us about our life today?

Sunday Message reflection:

When considering the Trinity and the relationship between the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit, how can this help us live a Heaven focused life?

Recap final discussion about this session...

- ❖ How has this session challenged or deepened your understanding of Heaven?

Prayer

Individual Home Study these passages are for your continued reflection. Use a journal to keep your answers to the passage prompts.

Read Psalm 37 slowly each day this week. Journal your thoughts as you read. Review these thoughts on day 7, Then read the Psalm once again.

Colossians 3:1-3 NLT

¹Since you have been raised to new life with Christ, set your sights on the realities of heaven, where Christ sits in the place of honor at God's right hand. ²Think about the things of heaven, not the things of earth. ³For you died to this life, and your real life is hidden with Christ in God.

Hebrews 10:23 NLT

²³Let us hold tightly without wavering to the hope we affirm, for God can be trusted to keep his promise.

2 Peter 3:13 NLT

¹³But we are looking forward to the new heavens and new earth he has promised, a world filled with God's righteousness.

Revelation 21:3 NLT

³I heard a loud shout from the throne, saying, "Look, God's home is now among his people! He will live with them, and they will be his people. God himself will be with them.

Isaiah 60:21 NLT

²¹All your people will be righteous. They will possess their land forever, for I will plant them there with my own hands in order to bring myself glory.

Share / Read / Talk / Grow / Check-In / Pray / Study



Week Six Study Guide

Series Inspired by Writings From:
"Heaven" by Randy Alcorn

SHALOM
LUTHERAN church

LOVE GOD ♥ LOVE OTHERS ♥ SERVE the WORLD