

Easter – Hope Changes Everything

Hope Rising

Announcements

101 Starting Point – Sunday, May 4th at 5:00 pm at all campuses. 101 Starting Point is the first step toward getting involved at Church of the King by learning about the vision and mission of the church. Register at www.churchoftheking.com/register

401 Small Group Training – Sunday, April 27th from 5:00–6:30 pm at the Little Creek Campus in Globe 345. Discover how to help people grow in their relationship with God. Register at www.churchoftheking.com/register

Warm-up

As a kid, what did you hope to be when you grew up? Did that dream come true?

Word and Application

Today we are going to discuss the power **hope** has in our lives.

What are some things in which people you know have placed their hope?

The Biblical word for hope means *“to hold fast, to desire with expectation of obtainment, to expect with confidence.”*

Do you think most people have this type of hope in their lives? Why or why not?

Read Jeremiah 29:11. God promises to give us hope despite our circumstances. Why do you think it is hard for people to have hope in God when facing negative circumstances?

People tend to lose hope when they feel that God has not met their expectations. What is one thing in which your expectations have not been met, and it has caused you to lose hope?

Read Romans 5:5. According to this scripture, what is our guarantee of hope, despite our unmet expectations?

God’s love, expressed through his Son, Jesus Christ is our guarantee of his eternal hope. There is no better way to live a hope-filled life than to embrace the promise found in making Jesus Christ your Lord and Savior.

Read 1 Corinthians 15:17 and John 10:10. Through Jesus’ resurrection we have the promise of an abundant and hope-filled life.

Remember, the Biblical definition of hope is *“to hold fast, to desire with expectation of obtainment, to expect with confidence.”*

What are you hoping for today? How can placing your faith in God help you live a hope-filled life?

As a group, let’s all commit to memorize **Romans 5:5**, so when we are discouraged we can say this to ourselves.

“Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.” Romans 5:5

Prayer

Pray for everyone in your small group to be filled with Biblical hope. Also, take time to ask for specific prayer requests from those in your small group.