

Dig Deeper @Home – “Hope Restored”

Complement to lesson on 11/06/22 – “When Hope Seems Lost”

ICE BREAKER – Questions to open dialogue and learn more about those gathered

1. Would you rather be a baseball or a baseball bat? Why?
2. Share a time when a situation felt hopeless.

MEMORIZE – Joel 2: 12-13

“Yet even now,” declares the LORD, “return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; and rend your hearts and not your garments.” Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and he relents over disaster.

READ – Joel 1: 1-12, 2: 1-11

Questions to ponder/discuss:

1. What does the Holy Spirit draw your attention to as you read these verses?
 - a. What particular words or phrases is the Holy Spirit highlighting to you as you read?
 - b. Is anything repeated? Contrasted? Compared?
 - c. What are the verses revealing about God? About people? In light of these, what needs to change in your life?
2. There are many calls for action in Joel 1: 1-12. Go back and list out all the calls for action.
 - a. What is God calling for people to do and why?
 - b. What would this look like in your life?
3. Compare and contrast the invasion described in chapter 1 with the one described in chapter 2.
 - a. What do you notice?
 - b. What are we to take from this?

EXPERIENTIAL ACTIVITY – Read and Watch

Read the whole book of Joel from start to finish in one sitting. What themes do you notice? What connections can you make? What patterns do you see? After taking some time reflecting on the book yourself (after reading it), watch this video from Bible Project on the book of Joel.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zQLazbgz90c>

After reading and watching the video, go back through and identify one action you want to perform and one promise you want to cling to from the book of Joel. Perform this action and remind yourself of this promise every day for the next 3 weeks. As you do, watch and see how the Lord responds.

SING (Suggested songs to sing. Use these, or any favorites of the gathered group, to worship Jesus!)

King of Kings - <http://www.viewpure.com/Of5lcFWiEpg?start=0&end=0>

Restore Me - <http://www.viewpure.com/1Otyr2ulS0o?start=0&end=0>

I Need thee Every Hour – Mennonite Hymnal #578

PRAY

This is a time to gather around for prayer requests and to share how you have seen God at work. A time to hear where God is showing up in our lives and where we need Him to help us in our lives.

Sending prayer based on the series:

Holy Spirit, give us eyes to see the despair and difficulties of those around me, give me ears to hear your truth, and give me the voice to graciously speak into the lives of those around me where I live, work, study and play.