

SERIES: Seeing Jesus

TITLE: Certain Hope

TEXT: Luke 7:11-35

The 2020 Question:

Where would we be at the end of 2020 if we fixed our eyes first and foremost on Jesus – every hour, every day – in a way that allowed Him to capture our hearts more than any competing vision?

Today's Focus:

Seeing Jesus when He doesn't seem to be seeing you!

Even the most faithful followers will experience times when it is not easy to see and trust Jesus

When you are discouraged or doubting, follow the evidence back to Jesus

There is a kingdom coming when we will fully see Jesus and everything will make sense

Hang your faith on Jesus – His Word and works

FOR FURTHER ACTION AND REFLECTION:

- Read Job 1:20-22 and 2:7-10
- Memorize 1 Corinthians 15:58 and Philippians 4:13
- Listen to this stirring, “social distance” version of “It is Well with my Soul” - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nDIJz6zzHNU>
- Listen to “Even If” - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B6fA35Ved-Y>
- Listen to “Walk by Faith” - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kDat2sgWcv0>
- Listen to “I Still Believe” - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fZPMZV9MVVY>
- Watch the movie “I Still Believe” (note to parents: contains difficult suffering)

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

1. What stood out to you most from the message?
2. What are some evidences of God's grace you are experiencing in this season?
3. Who is someone you are praying for who is sick, hurting, or grieving in this season? Pause and spend a few moments praying together right now.
4. Share about a time when it was difficult for you to see or understand Jesus, when you faced real discouragement or doubt. How was Jesus pursuing you in that time?
5. As you think of John the Baptist in Luke 7, what questions do you think he was asking? What prayers do you think he was praying? What temptations do you think he was facing? Which of these can you identify with?
6. What are some things we can be tempted to “hang our faith” on other than Jesus? Share some examples of how those “hooks” have failed.
7. Read Jesus' response to John again in Luke 7:21-23. What stands out to you most about this response?
8. What is your favorite miracle that Jesus performed and why?
9. What is your favorite prophecy that Jesus fulfilled and why?
10. Read Lamentations 3:19-24. Which of the verses in this passage stand out the most to you and why?
11. What would it actually look like to hang your faith on Jesus today? Tomorrow? This week?