Hope is in the Air

January 21, 2024 | 1 Thess. 4:13-18 | Church on the Move | Pastor Mike Foster

· We have certain hope in the face of death (v. 13)

· The Lord promises to return and raise us with him (vv. 14-17)

· Let's stay awake while we wait for Jesus (4:18-5:11)

- o Encourage one another (1 Thess 4:18)
- o Live like children of light (1 Thess 5:1-11)
- o Stand firm and serve the Lord (2 Thess 2:16-17)

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What stood out to you most from the message?
2. What are some different things you have heard taught about the Lord's coming. Do you typically experience confusion, fear, and anxiety or hope and comfort when you think of the Lord's return? Why?
3. Read Revelation 21:1-4. What kind of future does God promise for His people? What aspect of heaven do you most look forward to?
4. Who is someone you are especially looking forward to seeing in heaven one day? Why?
5. Read 1 Thessalonians 4:13. What difference does hope make in the midst of grief? How have you experienced this personally?
6. Read John 11:32-36. What is the significance of Jesus weeping over the death of Lazarus? What can we learn from this as believers?
7. Read 1 Thessalonians 4:14-17. Summarize these verses in your own words. How would you encourage another believer (v. 18) with the promises of this passage? When might this encouragement be especially helpful.
8. Read 1 Corinthians 15:50-57. What do we learn from this passage about our resurrection? What difference does it make that our future in heaven will include glorified bodies and not just a spiritual existence? (Consider 2 Corinthians 5:1-5)
9. Read 1 Thessalonians 5:4-10. What does it mean to "be awake and sober" in light of Christ's return?
10. Read John 14:1-6. What do you see in this passage about the heart of Jesus? Have you trusted in Jesus to be your Savior and way to Heaven?

FOR FURTHER ACTION/REFLECTION

Read 1 and 2 Thessalonians, especially 1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:11

Read John 14:1-6, 1 Corinthians 15, Philippians 3:20-21, Titus 2:11-14

Read about the certainty of biblical hope – https://bit.ly/biblicalhope

Read this scholarly commentary on 1 Thessalonians 4 – https://bit.ly/1thess4

Learn more about the rapture – https://bit.ly/rapture_

Listen to "Come Jesus Come"
– https://bit.ly/comejesuscomesong

Listen to "Coming Back" – https://bit.ly/comingback_