

4. What does it mean to boast in the glory of God?

5. Of the four actions we can take strengthen our hope, which is strength for you and which is more of a struggle?

6. How will you grow hope deeper in your life?

“Whispered Prayers, Hidden Bibles, Secretly Scribbled Verses: Inside the Resilient Faith of the #BringBackOurGirls Hostages,” by Joe Parkinson and Drew Hinshaw - <https://bit.ly/36hA1MX>

Gospel Resilience (A Series on Romans 5 – 8)
“How Gospel Hope Makes Faith Resilient (Even in Suffering)”
Romans 5:1-11

“[Some are] retreating from faith not because they’re ignorant of its key tenets and lack the necessary intellectual, theological depth but rather because the adversity of adherence to increasingly countercultural doctrine grows too great. The failure of the church isn’t so much of catechesis but of fortification – of building the pure moral courage and resolve to live your faith in the face of cultural headwinds.” (David French)

The Parable of the Four Soils - Matthew 13:19-23

This series is about _____ faith in the face of cultural headwinds, but also so much more. It’s about resilient faith in the face of suffering, doubts, deep disappointment with Christians or the church, temptation, misplaced self-confidence or religiosity, persecution, and satanic attack.

How Gospel Hope Makes Faith Resilient (Even in Suffering)

Resilient faith, even in suffering, is the product of gospel _____.

1. The _____ of Hope

English doesn’t use the word _____ to describe a feeling of anticipation for something you fully expect will happen.

Hope = Confident _____

2. The _____ of Hope

NIV: “Boast”

ESV and NIV (1984): “Rejoice”

NASV and N.T. Wright: “Celebrate”

NASV (1995): “Exult”

NIV: “Glory” (in the next verse)

Having been made _____ with God there is an “I can’t wait” quality to what we’re confidently anticipating and expecting.

Do I exult or rejoice or celebrate in my future hope like I do my _____?
(You fill in the blank)?

3. The _____ of Hope

Romans 8:17-18,20-25

Does God want me to stop exalting in other things like my home, my family, or my friends? _____. But he does want me to exalt even more in him and in our glorious future.

4. How Hope Grows _____

Suffering doesn't _____ biblical hope, it strengthens it. In fact, I suspect that if you enter suffering without the kind of faith that produces biblical hope, the suffering is more likely to kill your hopeless faith than it is to strengthen it.

To grow in hope of what's coming and eagerly anticipate it, we need to...

- B _____

If you _____ God when he says we were his enemies, traitorous sinners, deserving of his wrath, then being at peace with him and gaining access to his grace will change everything for you. It makes a glorious future possible. And if you believe God when he says that glorious future is better than anything you can now imagine, you can face suffering with hope

- Boast _____

We exult to lift up hearts—ours and _____.

- S _____

“Suffering removes false sources of confidence.” (Tim Keller)

“The dark night of the soul is a means of weaning believers from their destructive dependence on anything but the Lord himself. Contrary to superficial American expectations, God does some of his best work when we can't make life 'work,' when all the outward measures spell chaos or disaster.” (Peter K. Nelson)

- Reason/ _____

Hope is not _____.

It's so important to _____ and understand theology, which is to know and reflect on the reasons for our hope.

Personal Reflection & Small Group Questions

Please complete this study on your own, then bring it to your small group for discussion.

1. Looking back over your notes from this week's sermon, what particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

2. Read Romans 5:1-11. How would you describe the basis of our hope from Romans 5:1-2?

3. Romans 8:17-18,20-25 expands on what Paul means by “the hope of the glory of God” in 5:2. What is this hope?