

Sermon Discussion Guide:

The Promise of a Kingdom

Sunday, December 25, 2022

Scripture: **Lamentations 3:22-24**

OVERVIEW

Today we celebrate the birth of the Savior. It happens to fall on the Lord's day, and we have at least two reasons to gather together as a church community: 1) God calls us to do so on the Lord's Day; and 2) we need it! While we may individually have additional reasons, both of these are still true for all of us. This morning, what we will see from our passage is: **The God of mercy gives hope to the hurting.** Today can be a dark day for some, we all need both hope and mercy. This passage is a passage of hope.

CORROBORATING TEXTS

Psalm 36:5, Psalm 86:15, Romans 5:8, 1 John 1:9, Isaiah 9:6, Colossians 1:15-20

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What comes to mind when you think of hope? How does the Bible describe hope and how does it differ from the way the world thinks about it?
2. Pastor Joe mentions four types of people who need hope; the doubting, the hurting, the failing, and the fearful. Which one do you most resonate with?
3. The ground of true hope is found only in God, in His character. Which characteristics listed in the passage (love, mercy, faithfulness, and inheritance) do you feel you need to remember today and why?
4. God gave us the greatest gift we could possibly receive in His Son. We give gifts at Christmas to imitate our Heavenly Father. What are your thoughts on gift giving?