

WHAT

H.O.P.E.

MEANS

HOLD ON, PAIN
ENDS!

MAY 29, 2022

SCRIPTURE

Acts 1:3-11

After his suffering, he showed them that he was alive with many convincing proofs. He appeared to them over a period of forty days, speaking to them about God's kingdom. 4 While they were eating together, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem but to wait for what the Father had promised. He said, "This is what you heard from me: 5 John baptized with water, but in only a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

6 As a result, those who had gathered together asked Jesus, "Lord, are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel now?"

7 Jesus replied, "It isn't for you to know the times or seasons that the Father has set by his own authority. 8 Rather, you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

9 After Jesus said these things, as they were watching, he was lifted up and a cloud took him out of their sight. 10 While he was going away and as they were staring toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood next to them. 11 They said, "Galileans, why are you standing here, looking toward heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way that you saw him go into heaven."



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GETTING STARTED

- Check in with your group- this was a difficult week in our country. How are you doing?
- It feels a bit strange to talk about hope when times are hard. Have you ever experienced hope in an unexpected way? Share about that time.
- Pray together: Jesus, you are our hope, and we know that we can trust you with our pain. Draw near to us and remind us of your fierce love for us. Amen.

SERMON & SCRIPTURE DISCUSSION

Read the Scripture together, then discuss:

- In this Scripture, Jesus insists that the disciples stay in Jerusalem, even though that was a place where a lot of painful events had occurred, and it was not their home. What was the purpose of this? Why is it important to resist running away from our pain?
- Pastor Mindie said that "healing happens on its own timeline." When have you experienced this to be true in your life?
- The disciples were fixated on how they thought their pain should resolve- but that wasn't what Jesus had in mind for them. What causes us to get stuck when we're healing from pain? How can we move forward?
- Are you familiar with the Spiritual Practice of Lament? How could this practice be integrated into your personal or communal spiritual life?
- What does it mean for you to create hope even when you can't see it?

PRAYER REQUESTS



SERMON RESOURCES

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