

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

God With Us - Eph. 2:1-3, 11-12, Titus 2:11-13, and 1 Peter 1:3-5 - *"Hope for the Hopeless and Helpless"*

1. Is there anything specific from this message that the Lord has impressed upon your heart?

If so, what is it & how do you feel the Lord calling you to respond?

2. Have you ever been in (or witnessed somebody else in) what seemed like an utterly hopeless situation?

What happened that led to such a hopelessness in your (or that person's) life?

Did the hopelessness in that situation lead to a search for hope or to despair?

In hindsight, was there anything you (or the person you knew) could have done to change the situation?

Consider Ephesians 2:1-3, 11-12 - what does this say about the condition of mankind apart from Jesus?

What are some other Scripture passages you can think of that reveal the hopelessness of all people apart from Jesus?

Why is it so important to rightly understand the helpless and hopeless situation all of humanity was in due to our sin?

Why do you think it's hard for many people to rightly see themselves as helpless and hopeless in their sinfulness?

3. Read Titus 2:11-13 (and Ephesians 2:13) - What is the means by which any person can go from hopeless to hopeful?

What happens when we trust in Christ that moves us from helpless & hopeless to helped & hopeful?

(...and results in us being equipped by "The Helper" to also be helpful toward others)?

What does this passage say is the "blessed hope" of the believer for which we're waiting?

Do you actively and eagerly wait for (hope in) the return of Jesus Christ to the earth?

How does a real hope for an eternal future impact how we live our lives here and now in this life?

4. Read 1 Peter 1:3-5 - how do these verses encourage you as you consider the realization of hope in your life for eternity?

5. Below are the "Today's Takeaways" from the sermon. Do any of these encourage, convict, or challenge you, & if so, how?

Before Jesus came, we were hopeless:

All people were separated from God by sin!

Because Jesus came, we have real hope:

We all have the hope of reconciliation in Him!

Because Jesus will return for those in Him:

We'll live out our realized hope forevermore!

WE HAVE A TRUE HOPE IN JESUS; LET'S LIVE LIKE IT!