

Series: “An Incredible Christmas Recipe”

Title: “The Hope of His Presence”

Text: Lamentations 2:19-26

Date: Dec 5, 2021

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_____ : The person or thing in which your expectations for the future are centered.
Confident expectation.

_____ : When pain is without purpose and hope is lost.

Lamentations 3:19-24 “I remember my affliction and my wandering, the bitterness and the gall. ²⁰ I well remember them, my soul sinks within me. ²¹ Yet this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope. ²² *Because of* the LORD’s great love, we are not consumed, because His compassions never fail. ²³ *They are* new every morning; great *is* Your faithfulness. ²⁴ So I say to myself, “The LORD *is* my portion, therefore I hope in Him!”

I CALL TO _____

Philippians 4:8 “...whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable – if anything is excellent or praiseworthy – think about such things.”

GOD’S _____ : Rooted in the will, steadfast, loyal, never gives up, refuses to quit. He loves us because he said He would.

GOD’S _____ : The emotional side of love, His love in action, He wants to love you and He will keep expressing His compassion towards you.

GOD’S _____ : God’s utter dependability, He will do what He said He will do, and He will be who He has revealed Himself to be.

Vs 24 “So I say to myself, “The LORD *is* my portion, therefore I hope in Him!”

Psalm 90:1 “Lord, through all the generations You have been our home!

Psalm 73:26 “My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.”

Lamentations 3:25-26 “The Lord is good to those whose hope is in Him, to the one who seeks Him; 26 it is good to wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord.”

Hebrews 10:37 “For in a little while He who is coming will come and He will not delay.”

LOOK IN:

1. On a scale of 1 - 10 with 10 being “full of hope” and 1 being “completely hopeless”, how would you rate yourself? Is there anything from the passage/sermon that gives you more hope? If so, what?
2. Do you tend to “call to mind” things from the past that make you grateful or do you tend to dwell on the negative? What might you do to cultivate an attitude of gratitude in your life?
3. How has God been faithful to you in your own life? How does hearing about the faithfulness of God in other’s lives help to give you hope?
4. How do you speak to yourself? How does your own self talk compare to how the writer of Lamentations writes about speaking to yourself? What might need to change in your self talk?
5. Where in your life is it challenging for you to accept God as your portion, as enough? How does this passage/message encourage or challenge you?