

Wk 4 · Aug 14 · Future Hope



INTRODUCTION

Over the past few Sundays, our pastors provided insight into the Psalms. This week, Pastor Jesse helps us understand how the word "hope" is defined in the Scriptures utilizing Psalm 118 and how we can apply that hope to our current situations.

DISCUSSION

- 1. Share an example of something you enjoy doing and why you think it's fun. Just as fun can be defined in many ways, hope can, too. How do you define hope?
- 2. **Read Psalm 118**, and discuss how the psalmist describes hope throughout this psalm. How does the psalmist definition of hope differ from yours?
- 3. Discuss Pastor Jesse's statement, "Our hope rests entirely, from beginning to end, on God's love (hesed) for us," taking into consideration the word "hesed," which means lovingkindness, mercy, graciousness, loyalty, joint obligation, faithfulness, goodness, graciousness, and godly action. How might the word hesed differ from your concept of God's love?
- 4. Discuss Jesse's statement, "You'll often encounter God's love in ways you wouldn't expect and in places and circumstances you'd least expect." How might this statement provide hope for you in your hard-pressed circumstances (Psalm 118:5)?

TAKE ACTION

- 1. Reflect on times when God's love showed up in an unexpected place or at an unexpected time. Share one of those recollections with a spouse, family member, group member, or fellow believer.
- 2. Think through Pastor's Jesse's definition of hesed (God's love) from question 3 and focus on how God's love might bring hope to a situation you are currently facing.
- 3. Pray and ask the Lord if there is someone with whom you can share God's hope with in the coming week.
- 4. Read, meditate, and memorize Proverbs 23:18. Share the verse with a family member or friend who might need the hope God can provide for them.

RESOURCES

Facing Your Giants by Max Lucado, available on Amazon.

Lord Give Me a Heart for You by Kay Arthur, available on Amazon.

There's Hope, a seven-video series on RightNow Media.