

Waiting For Hope



Part Two: Waiting Well & Choosing Hope // Ben Hilson // **December 13, 2020**

You've held out for hope this year. The hope of lifted restrictions, the hope of a healthy diagnosis, or just hope for some good news. You know what it means to wait for hope. Maybe you're still waiting. The accounts of Christmas are a picture of humanity holding out for hope. The hope of something more, something better. Together we'll learn what to do in the waiting and discover that there's more hope than you might think.

Scripture: [Luke 1:5-25 NLT](#), [Romans 15:13 NIV](#)

Bottom Line: Biblical hope is not based on circumstances; it is based on a person.

Getting Started:

1. What is the worst thing about waiting for you personally?
2. Do you have any Christmas traditions that celebrate the birth of Jesus?

Jumping In:

3. Read the story from [Luke 1:5-25 NLT](#) as a group. How do you think you would have reacted if you were Zechariah? What was the most encouraging thing about Elizabeth's response to the pregnancy?
4. Ben shared that during this season, it's easy to slip into cynicism. What was your initial reaction when he said that? Have you ever seen any signs of cynicism in your own life?
5. Ben suggested that the question underlying cynicism for a follower of Jesus is, "What do you think God is like?" If you were being honest with yourself in this moment, how would you answer this question?
6. How do you see God's grace at work in your life right now? How about in the lives of others from your small group?
7. What difference does it make that biblical hope is not based on circumstances but on a Person? How can we prevent our circumstances from robbing us of the hope that God offers?

Moving Forward:

Read [Romans 15:13 NIV](#). "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." Lean into this incredible promise this week. Ask God to help you "overflow with hope"!

If you know who you are planning to invite to Christmas Eve Together online, share with your group so they can be praying for your invitation in the next week. If not, pray that God would give you an opportunity--and that you would seize it--to invite someone who needs the hope of Jesus. And pray that these friends and family who are being invited would actually tune in to our Christmas Eve services and take a step in their journey toward Christ.