

SERMON: The Assurance of Hope
SERIES: Thrill of Hope
SPEAKER: Pastor Brady

December 17, 2017

CONNECT (5-10 minutes): Help the members of the group grow in relationships with one another so all people in the group know they matter. Spend some time discovering what is happening in the lives of your group members. Share how God has been revealing himself in each other's lives.

REVIEW (15-20 minutes): Use this time to review the passage and the sermon outline (see below).

Note: this is a great opportunity to share leadership.

Use these simple questions to review the sermon/passage or for if you don't have much time:

1. What does this passage teach you about God? About us?
2. How does this passage point us to the gospel? How does it challenge you? Change you?

SCRIPTURE:

Matthew 1:1-17.

The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

2 Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, 3 and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Ram, 4 and Ram the father of Amminadab, and Amminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, 5 and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, 6 and Jesse the father of David the king.

And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah, 7 and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asaph, 8 and Asaph the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, 9 and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, 10 and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amos,[c] and Amos the father of Josiah, 11 and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon.

12 And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Shealtiel,[d] and Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel, 13 and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor, 14 and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud, 15 and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, 16 and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, who is called Christ.

17 So all the generations from Abraham to David were fourteen generations, and from David to the deportation to Babylon fourteen generations, and from the deportation to Babylon to the Christ fourteen generations.

SERMON OUTLINE:

We can have the assurance of hope because...

1. The story is true.
2. We can trust the scripture.
3. God keeps his promises.
4. God's grace always wins.
5. Our hope is in the person of Jesus.
6. Our hope is in the finished work of Jesus.
7. Our hope is in our union with Christ.

GROW (45-60 minutes): Use this time to go deeper with your group.

Use these questions to discuss the sermon/passage:

Think through the 7

1. We can have hope because the genealogy shows that the story is true- why is it so important to us that the gospel is good news not just good advice?
2. We can have hope because the genealogy shows that we can trust scripture. How does the genealogy show us that Jesus fulfills all of scripture?
3. We can have hope because the genealogy shows us that God keeps his promises (Abrahamic and Davidic Covenants). What promises of the New Covenant are you trusting God for?
4. We can have hope because the genealogy shows us that God's grace always wins. How has God's grace changed your status like it did for Rahab or Ruth? Have you felt the honor of being in God's family?
5. We can have hope because the genealogy reveals the person of Jesus. How does it show that he is both man and God? Why is it so important to our salvation that he be both man and God.
6. We can have hope because the genealogy reveals the finished work of Christ. Think through these truths about Christ together: He fulfills all history and scripture. He is the new creation that unites all mankind. He fulfills God's covenants by his death and resurrection. How do these truths about Christ inspire you? Take some time to just rest in the greatness of Christ.
7. We can have hope because the genealogy reveals our union with Christ. The genealogy ends with Jesus physically, but spiritually we are the next generation. What is your ultimate hope in life and death? Is it your union with Christ?