

Sermon Notes
“Waiting With Hope” (Rom 8:22-25)
Mar 26, 2023

Discussion Questions

These questions are only a guide. Feel free to share how God has spoken to you, what areas you question &/or do not understand. Allow the Holy Spirit to guide your discussion.

➤ **Life just hurts**

Universal pain (8:22)

Personal suffering (8:23a)

Our culture encourages people to flee, escape or hide from pain. Jesus teaches us to confront it head on. What pain is going on around you? What are the hard things in your life? Take time to acknowledge them.

➤ **There’s hope outside the present (8:23b-24)**

Joy in new beginnings (8:23b)

Confident expectation (8:23c-24; Eph 1:13-14)

How do you handle challenges in daily life? What are your coping mechanisms – Ignore, stay busy, stuff it, blame others. Can you think of a time when Jesus showed up in the middle of a great challenge?

Jesus brought a future hope into reach through the cross. What hope is that? How can we experience the ‘firstfruit’ in everyday moments?

➤ **What’s coming is enough (8:25)**

Patience is your witness

Hold in tension:

	‘Now’	&	‘Not yet’
<i>Knowledge:</i>			
<i>Morality</i>			
<i>Nations</i>			
<i>Physically</i>			
<i>Spiritually</i>			

Even with the ‘firstfruits’ offered to us, what is still missing? What do we look forward to that is still unreachable? Can we be confident it is coming? How do we remain confident as more challenges come?

What ability do we have to be ‘patient’ for what is still coming? How is that a witness to people around us? What causes us to be impatient about the future and what impact does that have?

Consider your everyday experiences, what the Spirit offers us today, and what we must wait for? What causes us to hold back from sharing the Gospel? What are we missing? How to be move forward?

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