

GROUP ICE BREAKER

When you were young, what did you hope you would be when you grew up? Why?

REVIEW LAST WEEK'S NEXT STEPS

What, if any, next step did you commit to last week, how did it go?

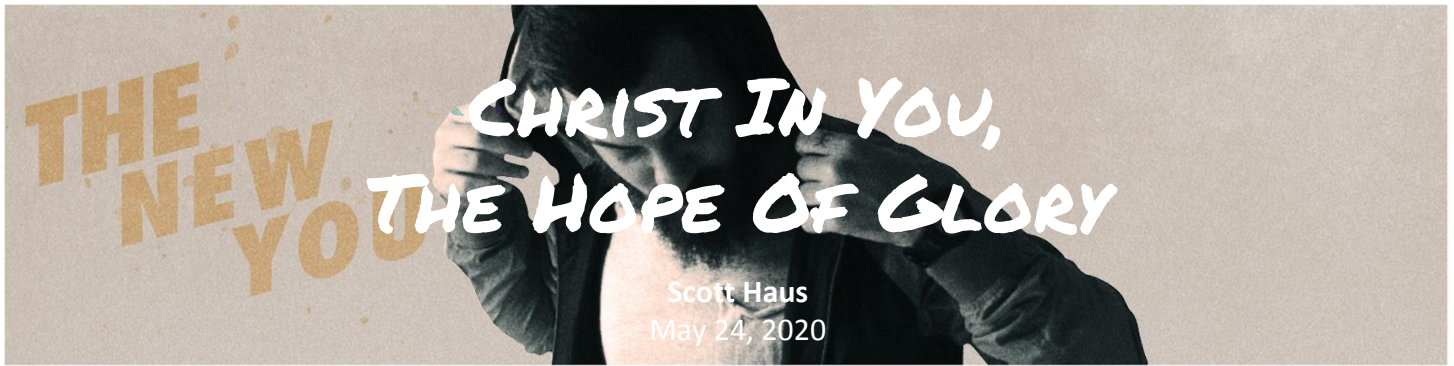
- I will live like Jesus is near and current, not far and ancient.
- I will live with a Colossians 1:15-20 understanding of Jesus.
- I will live like Jesus is by my side and he is all-powerful.
- I will listen to Jesus and do what he says.
- I will take the steps I need to take in relationships.

THIS WEEK'S SERMON RECAP

The New You is all about returning from shelter-in-place as a better version of ourselves. We take another step now, into understanding Jesus' place and proximity in our lives. God's plan of redemption for a broken world and our broken human nature is Jesus. Through Jesus' death on the cross and resurrection from the grave, the power of sin and death has been defeated. And Jesus didn't come for a select few, He came to show the love of God for all humanity. The riches of this mystery is Christ in you. When we make the decision to follow Jesus it changes us because He moves in. The New You is Christ in you. Your life is in Christ and His life is in you. His presence in us gives us the hope of glory. Hope is not a result of the condition you find yourself in, it's a confident expectation of the future. This hope doesn't just give us a future destination; it's not an escape from current reality, but it transforms us in the present. God is all about changing you to make you more like Christ. This season of growth, of maturity, if we allow God to do His work in us, will make us new, better versions of ourselves. The best version of you is not just you, it's Christ in you, the hope of glory!

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Read Colossians 1:25-27. What is the "mystery" Paul writes about? How would you explain it to someone who's not a Christ-follower?
2. Read Galatians 3:26-29 and Ephesians 3:1-6. What would change in your life, the church at large and in society if we truly believed and lived that the Gospel of Jesus Christ was for everyone; different races, social class, values, politics, and motivations?
3. Read Galatians 2:20, John 14:15-20 and 1 John 3:19-24. In what way is the presence of Christ in us?



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (CONT)

4. What comes to mind when you think of the word “hope”? What are you hoping for in this season of life?
5. When you hear the word “glory,” what do you think of? What is the glory Paul is speaking of?
6. How does “the hope of glory” transform us in the present?
7. What does it mean to be “mature in Christ”? How does one become mature in Christ?
8. In what ways do you feel that you are lacking in maturity in Christ? In what ways do you feel like you are growing in maturity in Christ? How do you plan to continue growing in these ways?
9. How does it affect you and your approach to life in general and to suffering in particular to know that Jesus is “in” you, that He is your “hope”? What are some of the concrete ways in which this truth makes life different for you?

NEXT STEPS FOR THIS WEEK (COMMIT TO GROW)

- I will live with the truth of Christ in me.
- I will place my hope in Christ and not things of this world.
- I will allow God to transform me through the present season of life.
- I will pursue spiritual maturity and Christ-centered living.

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

- Colossians 1:25-28
- Galatians 2:20
- John 14:16-17
- Romans 5:1-2