

HOPE IN HOPELESS TIMES

1 PETER 1:3-9

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

1 Peter 1:3

I. The Reason for Hope

II. The Nature of Hope

III. The Joy of our Hope

Small Group Application Questions

A Note for our Virtual Groups

This is the week that we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ. The questions focus on what it means for us that God raised Jesus from the dead. With the concern about the spread of the coronavirus around the world, people are facing literal issues of life and death much more clearly than usual. As Christians, we should live our lives in these times in a way that demands an answer.

Getting to Know You

1. Share a time when a death touched you closely. How did you respond?

Into the Bible

2. 1 Corinthians 15 is the great chapter in the Bible about the resurrection. Read 1 Corinthians 15:50-58. What do these verses say about the power that death has over a believer in Jesus Christ? Do they apply in other parts of our lives as well?

Application

3. Question 2 should lead you naturally to the application. It is easy to get discouraged in the middle of crises like we are facing now. Read Romans 8:31-39. How should we face problems in our lives, knowing that the risen Christ Jesus (verse 34) is making intercession for us? Have you seen a difference in the way unbelievers react to this crisis?

For Families

4. Talk with your children, at whatever level you feel they are ready for, about how you have dealt with the death of someone you love.