

Overcoming Disappointment...With Me

Hope ALWAYS overcomes disappointment (Romans 8:1, 28, 37-39). Every person has experienced disappointment with themselves, and we each know what it is like to be a prisoner to our own memory of failures and mistakes. That disappointment, if left unresolved, ultimately leads to unfulfilled destiny. But in Jesus, we have hope and overcome disappointment. Through His death, burial, and resurrection, we can know Him and fully embrace the benefits of living in relationship with Him. In Him and through what He has accomplished for us, there is no condemnation, no defeat, and no separation. Instead, God is working for our good, even in difficulty, to transform each of us into His likeness, to make us mature and complete.

GET THINGS STARTED

In our current season, what has been your greatest disappointment? What has been the most significant expectation you had that has gone unmet?

GO DEEPER

1. Despite Peter's greatest intentions and promises, he still denied Jesus three times. When the rooster crowed, Luke 22:61-62 says that *the Lord turned and looked at Peter...and he went out and wept bitterly*. How did this personal disappointment derail Peter's destiny, and how did Jesus respond to Peter's disappointment after His resurrection in John 21:1-17? How does Jesus respond to our own self-disappointment?
2. What is the promise of Romans 8:1, and why is it more than just wishful thinking? How can we have confidence and hope in the truth of this verse?
3. Through Jesus and His resurrection, what do we become according to Romans 8:37? What does that mean for today and for our current situation?
4. From Romans 8:28 and James 1:2-4, what is God accomplishing for us right now in the midst of disappointment and struggle?

MAKE IT PERSONAL

1. What is the greatest disappointment that you have had with yourself in the last few weeks? What does the reality of Jesus' resurrection say about that disappointment and what He wants to accomplish or develop in you?
2. How would you rate your current level of hope? What needs to shift in your heart and in your perspective to allow you to walk in greater measures of hope in Jesus?
3. What does it look like for you to be a hope giver right now? Who can you serve and bless, and what would that look like?

PRACTICE IT NOW

Purposefully spend time as a group celebrating in prayer and worship all the benefits and blessings we have because of what He accomplished for us on the cross. Ask God to increase your hope. Ask Him to help you walk confidently in Him without condemnation, without defeat, and without separation. And ask God to make you an extravagant hope giver and to show you strategically who to serve and bless right now.