

Talk-It-Over: Week 3

Dangerous Hope

Spend time going over questions and comments from the this week's sermon.

A young couple who recently became parents were asked, "We often speak about God the Father. What has becoming a parent taught you about God?" Their response was to acknowledge that their child will grow up to the point where they will eventually make their own choices. The parents imagined what it would be like for their child to decide to disown them. It would be incredibly painful for them as parents. These thoughts, which many new parents consider, teaches us so much about God's love for us, and how God feels whenever someone turns their back on him.

Like many earthly parents God would do anything, even die, to try and bring about reconciliation, to repair the relationship between himself and his children.

Read:

Romans 5:1-11

Questions:

- 1. Have you ever encountered a broken relationship, either yours or that of someone you know, that was not repaired?
- 2. What does Paul mean when he talks about "Peace With God"?
- 3. Paul talks about suffering leading to perseverance which leads to building character which leads to hope. What are some of the ways in which you have experienced suffering?
- 4. Does suffering always lead to perseverance? How?
- 5. Does perseverance always lead to character building? How?
- 6. Does character building always lead to hope? How?
- 7. Why does this hope "not put us to shame" (v5)?

Prayer Time:

Thank You God that I have been declared righteous by faith and can have peace with you, through our Lord Jesus Christ. Thank You for your amazing grace, that helps me stand firm when times are tough.

Help me hold on to joy in my trials and tribulations, and help me develop a persevering attitude that refuses to let go of you. I praise you that I have never been disappointed by you because your gracious love is continually poured into my heart, through the indwelling Holy Spirit - as a witness to your unfailing love.

Thank you, in Jesus name I pray,

AMEN.

Further Reading:

Romans 5:12-21