Sunday, May 24, 2026

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Grieve with Hope

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

1. It's easy to grieve without hope.

2. How we can grieve with hope.

3. Why we have to live now, in light of future hope.

Discussion Questions:

1. Everyone grieves. There's a not-rightness to this world that we all know and experience that makes us deeply sad.
    a. Can you recall a time of what that's been like for you?
    b. How does that experience change when you consider that God hates it so much more than you have (or even, than you can)?
2. When we think about people we love who have died, but are united to Christ, it's easy to focus on how we'll feel to see them again. It's harder to think about the joy they may feel to be reunited with us. It's even harder to realize how special it will be for them to take part in Christ's triumphant return to this restored world.
    a. What's that like for you to consider their resurrection from their point of view?
    b. How does that change what you're looking forward to?
3. As I work through this passage (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18), I'm really convicted by how self-absorbed my grieving is. And at the same time, I'm really comforted by the hope that Christ still holds out for me.
    a. Is it convicting for you? Comforting to your soul? How does what Christ will do in the future, meet the needs that your soul has now?
    b. Take some time to pray--with others would be even better!--confessing both your struggles and asking for greater confidence in his love for you.