

SERMON SERIES: The GOAT- Greatest Of All Time

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Sermon Title

“He Provides Lasting Hope”

Introduction

This week we continued our series “The GOAT” – The Greatest Of All Time, taking a look through the book of Hebrews and seeing that every aspect of Jesus is the Greatest of All Time. Who He is, what He said, and how He loves, He is the GOAT. This week, we focused on the things that we hold on to and hope for, and how the greatest hope of all time... is Jesus. In the midst of our failure and sin, there is hope in the GOAT– Jesus. To get started this week, answer this icebreaker question with your group:

- What is one funny or memorable failure from your past that you can laugh about now?

Seek the Word

- Read Genesis 15:1-6 aloud, then discuss.
 - How does the story of Abram (Abraham) and God’s promise to him reveal the importance of having faith when things don’t go as planned? How can we live out this type of faith?
- Read Hebrews 6:16-18 aloud, then discuss.
 - The author of Hebrews is referring back to God’s promise to Abraham to demonstrate the trust that we can have in God. How easy is it for you to trust in the promises of God? What is it that makes this challenging sometimes?
- Read Hebrews 6:19-20 aloud, then discuss.
 - The text tells us that Jesus goes before us, presenting Himself to the Lord on our behalf. What thoughts and emotions come to mind when you think about Jesus going before us as our hope?

Go Deeper

“Hope is where your heart’s desires find their home.”

Oftentimes we think that what we hide away in our hearts can be kept secret there, and it doesn’t impact our actions. But the truth is, the desires of our hearts guide the decisions we make. Take some time to look inward and reflect on what the true desires of your heart are. Write them down, and then spend some time sharing those with your group and praying over them, asking God to redeem and sanctify those desires to be more like His so that the desires of our heart can lead us to an even deeper hope in Jesus.

Talk About It

- How much of your day/life is spent looking down? Looking down on your situation, looking down into your life, looking down on your sin, fixated on all of the things that distract you. What would it look like for you to spend more time looking up (Genesis 15:5-6) and focusing our desire and our hope on the promises of God?
- What do you carry around in your “box of failures”? What holds you down and keeps your hope fixed on something other than Jesus?
- What are some ways you can lead out and encourage others in your life to find hope in Jesus, especially those who may be struggling with their own failures?

Wrap Up

Reminder: Our God keeps His promises. Over and over in Scripture (11 different promises mentioned on Sunday) we see promises made by God that He has kept to. And we, like Abraham, have to choose if our hope is going to be found in the greatest promise God made... freedom and life in Jesus. Regardless of the things that take our attention away, or the things that we sometimes put our hope into, we have to remember that Jesus is the greatest hope—the **Greatest Of All Time**.

Challenge: Take some time each day this week to look up. Physically and spiritually, take some intentional time to look up to God, being reminded of His promises that He has made. When God made His promise to Abraham, He told him to look up and count the stars because that is how numerous his descendents would be. While our promise in Jesus has nothing to do with stars, they are a reminder that God keeps his promises. As Ryan put it, “The stars point to the simple fact that God is a promise-keeping God.” During this time of looking up, adopt a posture of gratitude and thanksgiving, as you remember the goodness of God.

Prayer: Close your time as a group by praying together, thanking God for His faithfulness and promises. Ask Him to help each one of you anchor your lives in the hope of Jesus, and to release any burdens of failure that you may be carrying. Pray for strength and courage to live out this hope in your lives.