

Simple *Christmas*

Hope – December 3, 2017

Scripture Texts

Hebrews 10:35-12:2; 1 Peter 1:8-9

Connect

What did God teach you during the message this Sunday? Did anything in particular stand out?

What memory do you have of a simple Christmas? Why does it stand out in your memory?

What are you hoping for this Christmas? For the coming year?

If you were promised a large inheritance and you didn't have it but were sure you would get it, how would it affect your future plans?

Engage

Read Hebrews 10:35 – 12:2

If someone asked you, how would you define “faith”? How does the author of Hebrews define it in verse 11:1?

What is the relationship between “hope” and “faith” in verse 11:1? How is it like “confidence” in verse 10:35? Are they the same or different?

What are the things mentioned in Verses 10:35-39 that we are to hope for?

The phrase “by faith” (and in 11:2 “by it”) occurs repeatedly in Chapter 11. Go through each one. In each case, what was the person hoping for? Did they receive it at that time or were they still looking forward to their hope?

In verse 11:40, how is the hope “better” for us and those in the New Testament than for those in the Old Testament? What hope do we have in common? (Also see verses 10:37 and 12:2)

Read 1 Peter 1:8-9

Based on these verses in 1 Peter, what do you have in common with the people in the passage from Hebrews?

Apply

How does your hope change the way you think about and celebrate Christmas?

How does your hope encourage you to live your life?

Make a list of some people who don't know Christ and ask God to give you an opportunity this Christmas to share this hope with them.

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