



Pastor Tom Kang

pt 1: Hope

1. As we enter the Advent season, describe how “holiday hype” can sometimes get in the way of more meaningful “holy days” (holidays). What specific practices might help someone to embrace “more holy, less hype”?
2. *Humans can live about 40 days without food, 3 days without water, and about 8 minutes without air ... but only a few seconds without hope.* How has hope (or the lack of) impacted your life? Consider this quote from C.S. Lewis: "Hope is one of the theological virtues. This means that a continual looking forward to the eternal world is not a form of escapism or wishful thinking, but one of the things a Christian is meant to do."
3. Spend some time as a group, reading Exodus 32. Where do you see yourself in that passage? Where do you see Christ in that passage? Consider also 1 Timothy 2:5-6.
4. How is Christian hope different from worldly optimism or wishful thinking? Consider Hebrews 6:19-20.
5. Romans 5:5 tells us that "hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit." How has God proven His faithfulness in your life, and how does that strengthen your hope?
6. The sermon discusses misplaced hope in things like bank accounts, relationships, careers, politics, and social media. Which of these tend to compete most with your hope in Christ? What makes these alternatives so appealing?
7. Read Isaiah 40:31: “But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength.” The sermon connects waiting and hope. How can we maintain hope during seasons of waiting? What distinguishes patient hope from passive inaction?

JOIN THE FUN!

