

HOPE FOR BROKEN HEARTS

When Your Nation Rejects God September 4, 2022

Share about a time that God felt close even though you were dealing with a broken heart. How did feeling God's presence help you cope with the situation?

Read: Psalm 34:18

How do you find hope when you are devastated and sorrowful over the spiritual condition of our nation?

Read: Acts 4:12, Philippians 2:9-11

Patriotism is not a sin when things are in their proper perspective. How do we deal with the tension of honoring our nation without turning it into an idol? Is this a difficult balance for you? What are some indicators that we are putting too much emphasis on our citizenship as Americans?

Read Lamentations 1:1, 1:3, 2:11

Lamentations is a song of mourning. What has happened to cause Jeremiah to lament? Name some of the things happening in our country now that cause you to lament. Where do you see signs that God is at work in our country?

Read Lamentations 3:19-21 and 3:22-26

In chapter 3 Jeremiah flips the script from despair to hope. What decision is Jeremiah encouraging us to make? What are the things that can help us live with confident expectation of what God is going to do?

Ted gave us The Hope Plan.

1. Be aware of what is going on in our country but don't obsess over it
2. Call to mind God's character and promises
3. Speak less, pray more

Which of these points is the hardest for you to consistently implement? Can you share practical ways that you can incorporate these ideas into your everyday routines? Which promises of God come to mind when you feel concerned about the direction of our country?

Read Lamentations 5:19

Does this verse bring you peace as you think about our nation? End your time together by praying a confession of trust to God in spite of all of the issues in our country today. Acknowledge the characteristics of God that bring you peace regardless of the circumstances all around you.