

FIELDS OF GLORY: Tipping the Scale

Pastor Brandon Zieske

Text: Romans 4:16-5:5

It all depends on grace through faith. Romans 4:16-17

Knowing who God is informs us of what God does. Romans 4:17

Worldly hope bases its optimism on facts, feelings, and experiences.

Heavenly hope bases its confidence on who God is and what God does.
Romans 4:18

Our faith needs resistance in order to grow strong. Romans 4:20

FAITH RESISTANCE OFTEN COMES IN THE FORM OF facts, feelings, & our failures.

TIPPING THE SCALE:

Giving glory to God is to give more weight to His Word than anything else.

Romans 4:20-21

Like Abraham, we too must face resistance. So let's rejoice in it.

Romans 5:1-5

Food for Thought for the week of December 13, 2015

(Questions and Scriptures for further study and discussion)

Text: Romans 4:16-5:5

1. How did this week's message impact you? What challenged you? What questions did it raise? What confused you?
2. Is there someone, an athlete, musician, or celebrity, that you look at and say "They make it look so easy"? What is their backstory? What all goes into their preparation?
3. What have been, or currently are, some momentary failures in your life or instances where you felt there was no hope? What has happened afterward? Do you still dwell on them or have you moved on? How did you feel during those moments?
4. Last week, in your small groups, you talked about what it means to hope. What are some things that you hope in?
5. In Romans 4:18, Paul states, "Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed." How was that possible for him? What are the two hopes that Paul is talking about?
6. A lot of times we need to put more weight in God than in our own facts, feelings, and failures. What are some things that we can have "full assurance of hope" in? (Hebrews 6:11) What are some of God's promises to us that we can cling to when there seems to be no hope?
7. What does it mean to give glory to God? What does it look like to give glory to God in all of life, in all circumstances? (Romans 4:20)
8. Romans 5:2 tells us to "rejoice in the hope of the glory of God". What does that mean? What does that look like in your life? How can we rejoice in the midst of struggles and pain?

Application:

How can we, in our daily lives, "rejoice in the hope"?

Spend time this week rejoicing in God and the hope He gives us!

Further Reading: Psalm 147:11, Romans 5:1-5; Titus 2:13-14, 1 Peter 1:24-25

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