



John: The Great "I AM" Gospel
John 16:16-22
From Sermon 2.16. 25

Read *John 16:16-22*

Overview from Sunday's sermon: This Upper Room teaching is comprehensive, practical, empowering, & full of promises. It contains the nuts and bolts of going forward—the writing of new Scripture, the birth of the Church, and the components of the Great Commission. But that is not all of who or what we are. Jesus knows this and addresses the emotional costs and the spiritual toll. The Christians life will bring grief, loss, & trials. Jesus provides perspective and reward. And He outlines the temporary vs eternal.

1. What would be considered the "Necessities of Life? [Maslow Pyramid] Various Answers. Air, water, food, shelter. Relationships, safety, resources, work, mental & spiritual health.

1a. What other necessary component was Jesus' topic in the text and our focus on Sunday? Hope
Read *Lamentations 3:21-25* (along with the context of when Jeremiah wrote that) and discuss the necessity of hope.

2. What are signs of a hopeless world & culture? Various Answers. Include: Self-absorption. Pleasure. Recklessness. Pursuit of money. Alcoholism. Drug addiction. Sexual obsession. Depression. Suicide. Violence. See also *1 Corinthians 15:14-19 & 32* and Discuss [= the philosophy of this culture. There is no future. Make your own joy at any cost.]

3. If you're willing, share your own hopeless times/seasons in life. How did you combat it? Various Answers

4. One of the teaching topics on Sunday was the "Perplexity of Hope". Review and discuss the paradox of Christian hope. That Jesus must leave for joy to come. We are actually blessed when we are persecuted. Biblical hope is produced by trials. See Romans 5:2-5.

5. One of the great endurance truths is found in "Hope by Comparison". Once in glory, our trials here will be realized as so very light and momentary. Can you think of any examples from life?
See *2 Corinthians 4:16-18*

6. Have you ever been to the funeral of an unbeliever? What were your thoughts, emotions, & reactions? Various personal answers and responses.

6a. Have you ever been to the funeral of a believer? What was the difference? Could you find joy? Further personal answers.

6b. Read *1 Peter 1:3*. What does it mean to have a living hope? Jesus Christ conquered the death and the grave. We don't have to fear what plagues all of mankind (*Hebrews 2:14-15*). Because Christ is fully, physically alive today. He is our living hope.