

formed

*Words That Move Us
From Believer to Disciple*

DEFIANT HOPE

*Formed
Week 2
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KEY POINTS

- Defiant hope is desperately needed - we are all somewhere on the spectrum of suffering and need biblical lament as a pathway to God.
- Defiant hope begins with a decision - we must turn from what consumes us and return to what we know is true about God.
- Defiant hope rests in God's character - specifically His steadfast love, never-ending mercy, daily grace, and unchanging faithfulness.
- Defiant hope is formed in suffering - the waiting itself is the means by which God forms us, not an obstacle to overcome.
- Biblical lament is a prayer in pain that leads to trust, allowing us to bring our raw emotions to God while not staying in darkness.
- We need remembered truth more than new truth in moments of fear and uncertainty.
- The resurrection is God's last word on suffering, proving no grave or loss can overcome Jesus.
- People with defiant hope don't have easier lives; they have a steadier gaze fixed on Jesus.

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

Lamentations 3:17-26
Psalm 103:1-4
Romans 5:3-5
Romans 8:38-39

John 16:33
2 Corinthians 12:9
Revelation 21:4

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. When did scripture first come alive to you, and how has that initial encounter with God's word continued to shape your faith journey over the years?
2. How do you typically respond when life becomes difficult - do you tend toward doubt, control, worst-case scenarios, resentment, or isolation, and what would it look like to turn from that pathway?
3. Jeremiah says 'this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope' - what specific truths about God's character do you need to deliberately call to mind in your current season?
4. How does understanding that waiting itself is the means of formation rather than an obstacle to it change your perspective on the difficult seasons you are walking through?
5. Who in your life exemplifies defiant hope through their ability to see God everywhere despite brokenness and struggle, and what have you learned from watching their faith?

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