SERMON NOTES

HOPE IN ETERNAL LIFE
1 THESSALONIANS 4:13-18
NOVEMBER 8, 2026

SENIOR PASTOR
TIM HARKNESS



I. In the pain of this world, _____ but with eternal hope. (13-15)

II. _____ forward to the powerful gathering of all believers to Jesus forever. (16-17)

III. _____ one another not just with earthly hope, but a lso with this heavenly promise. (18)

IMPACT GROUP QUESTIONS

KEY PASSAGE: 1 THESSALONIANS 4:13-18

Opening: What truths impacted you most from the sermon/passage? *In the pain of this world, grieve but with eternal hope; Look forward to the powerful gathering of all believers to Jesus forever; Encourage one another not just with earthly hope, but also with this heavenly promise.*

INFORM THE HEAD/STIR THE HEART

Please read 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 and answer the following questions:

1. What encouragement was Paul offering to the church about believers who had died (fallen asleep)? Why do you think Paul uses the phrase "fallen asleep" to describe them?

2. Pastor Tim often says at funerals, "Tears are not a sign of a lack of faith. Tears are a sign that it hurts." What statement from verse 13 supports his encouragement?

3. From verse 14, what is the evidence we can point to in order to trust that Paul's words are true?

4. How does remembering the gospel on a daily basis help us to have hope in the Lord? How does it help us choose obedience to Him even when we grieve?

5. By what authority does Paul encourage the believers? Why is this important?

6. Please describe the order of what will take place according to verses 15-17.

7. The end of verse 17 says, "so we will always be with the Lord." Please use Revelation 21:1-7 to explain the significance of this promise.

8. What encouragement do you see in this passage that can help you have hope when you suffer any kind of loss in your daily circumstances?

CHALLENGE THE WILL

What is one thing from this passage that you will apply to your life—in your actions, thoughts, or desires—to better center your worship on the Lord?

WEEKLY READING PLAN

Monday, November 9 // 1 Corinthians 15:50-58
Stand Firm in Victory

Tuesday, November 10 // John 5:19-30
Hear and Believe

Wednesday, November 11 // John 11:1-16
That You May Believe

Thursday, November 12 // John 11:17-44
The Resurrection and the Life

Friday, November 13 // 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
Eternal Perspective