



Sermon Notes
June 17, 2018
"Storm Clouds"
Romans 5:2-5



I. The problem of storm clouds

- A. Storm clouds - when we bring pessimism, negativity, cynicism, bitterness, disillusionment, and discouragement into our _____.
- B. Proverbs 13:12 says "Hope delayed makes the _____ sick."
- C. When your dreams meet _____, choose hope.

II. The hope building process

- A. God is attempting to build _____ in us.
- B. The pattern that God uses to _____ hope in us is as follows:
 - a. Trouble
 - b. Endurance
 - c. Character
 - d. Hope
- C. Hope _____ the storm clouds of bitterness, discouragement, and disillusionment away.

III. Call to action

- A. In a season of trouble and suffering declare your _____ in God.
- B. During the endurance phase, do the next _____ thing.
- C. When you declare your trust in God and do the next right thing it's an invitation for God to show up and deepen our _____. This leads to hope.

Things I would like to remember about this message:

Asbury Daily Study Guide

INTRODUCTION

We all have expectations. Some are realized and some aren't. When our expectations come face-to-face with real-life challenges, it can batter our dreams. Storm clouds of bitterness, anger, and cynicism form in our lives...and we forfeit hope. But God is attempting to build hope in your life. Fighting for hope isn't about denying reality; it's about embracing reality. Where there's hope, there's a healthy heart. Where there's a healthy heart, there's a healthy emotional climate.

Monday: Psalm 20:1-5

The Psalmist is praying that God will give us the desires of our hearts and make all our plans succeed. Talk about a time when you realized a dream, large or small. How did that affect your emotional climate?

Tuesday: Proverbs 13:12

When our expectations come face-to-face with real-life challenges, it can batter our dreams. Storm clouds of bitterness, anger, and cynicism form in our lives...and we forfeit hope. This becomes a negative climate influencer in our relationships. When dreams meet reality, choose hope. Have you ever had to let go of a dream, large or small? If so, what did you do to come to grips with that reality?

Wednesday: Romans 5:2-5

This scripture passage describes God's hope building process. Problems or difficulties in our lives produce endurance, endurance produces character and character produces hope. When you declare your trust in God and do the next right thing it's an invitation for God to show up and deepen our character. This leads to hope. Think about a time in your life when you felt close to God. Were your circumstances good or bad? If they were bad, why did you feel close to God?

Thursday: Mark 1:10-15

After Jesus was baptized, the Spirit sent Jesus into the wilderness. It was not the religious leaders or people opposed to Jesus, it was the Spirit of God. The wilderness was a season of suffering for Jesus. Why would God lead him into a season like that? Do you believe that God uses suffering to increase our trust in him?

Friday: Psalm 25:1-5

In what area of your life do you need to declare your trust in God? What's the next right thing for you to do in that area?

MOVING FORWARD

When your dreams meet reality, choose hope. If you're in a season of trouble, declare your trust in God. Endure by doing the next right thing even if you don't know where the next right thing leads. God will show up and build his character in you...and that leads to hope. When your life is based on hope in God, you'll have a healthy emotional climate.

Answers to the sermon notes:

- IA) relationships, B) heart, C) reality.
- IIA) hope, B) build, C) pushes.
- IIIA) trust, B) right, C) character.