

Series Title: 'The God of Hope'

Subtitle: 'Refuel II: Helping us be refuelled and refreshed (target 20s-40s)

1. Plenary Sessions: The God of Hope

Blurb: During our 20s to 40s the realities of following Jesus begin to hit home. We all have a deep need to be refuelled and refreshed. Isaiah 40 (and esp. 28-31) speaks of what it might mean to begin to hope in the God of Hope. He promises to renew our strength when we set our hope on Him. Join us as we seek to think together about a vision for healthy discipleship: living lives that are rooted in Jesus and that flourish rather than flounder.

2. Seminar Sessions: Two one-hour seminar slots with a selection of three seminars to choose from in each.

Seminar Slot 1: Morning

A1: Where is God when life goes pear-shaped? Finding hope in setbacks...

Blurb: In this seminar we'll ask how we find God in the midst of circumstances that feel like setbacks; does He see them? Make them? How does God's sovereignty relate to difficult situations? Joseph's journey is a fascinating story of hope amidst an endless story of setbacks. Tossed in a pit by his brothers, sold into slavery, wrongfully imprisoned and yet what was intended for evil God intended for good.

A2. Where is God in my waiting? Setting our Hope on the Promises of God...

Blurb: Often in life we're forced to wait for what we want. But what do we do when what God's says and reality just aren't lining up? The story of Abraham & Sarah is a great example of a couple who, against all hope, believed God's promises. God leads them through a journey of disappointment as they wait for God to work out His promises in and through their lives.

A3. Where is God when tragedy strikes? Finding hope in loss and disappointment...

Blurb: In this seminar we will wrestle with how we trust God with our sufferings. The story of Naomi and Ruth is an inspiring story of hope amidst the pain of loss and disappointment. We will follow the story of how God leads Naomi from a place of bitterness back to a place of trust, and the story of how Ruth the Moabite trusts in God and experiences His provision through the unlikely figure of Boaz.

Seminar Slot 2: Afternoon

B1. How can I share Hope when life feels so tough? Sharing Hope in a broken and hurting world...

Blurb: Often life feels tough, and we find ourselves struggling to hope, let alone share it. The Apostle Paul is now stranger to dealing with adversity, but he described them as 'light and momentary' and speaks often about how sharing in the sufferings of Christ allows us to share hope with the broken, the hurting and the lost.

B2. How can I trust God for my future? Finding hope for what is still to come...

Blurb: Sometimes we find ourselves facing an uncertain future. But how do we bring this to God and trust Him through it all? The story of Jeremiah comes amidst 70 years of captivity for the people of God. Into this context God famously speaks of His plans to give His people a hope and a future. In this session we will consider how we can hope in God, both for the now and the not yet.

B3. Where is God when I've messed up? Finding hope in my failure and brokenness...

Blurb: In this seminar we will wrestle with how to set our hope on God when we've messed up. The life of Peter is an inspiring story of how God uses us despite our failures. Peter, so adamant that he would never betray Jesus, does exactly that yet hope wins through, and Jesus restores him, commissions him and is soon heard preaching of how he had experienced this living hope.