

apptoteach.org

THE BEREANS

ACTS 17:11

John 11:23-46
Lesson #39
Managing Disappointment
05/01/2016

Genesis 3:6



“When the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was desirable to make one wise, she took from its fruit and ate;”

This is a drama that depicts the misplaced hopes in life which is a vital part of spiritual warfare.

John 16:33

“In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; **I have overcome the world.**”

Did Jesus overcome the tribulation in the disciples' lives by removing it?

Or by overshadowing it with a greater hope?



Satan in anything
inspires & everything
hope but God.



The greatest lies we tell are the ones we tell to ourselves about the nature of our hope.

How can we find hope in the face of **disap** ?



no in fin ent

John 11

“²³ Jesus said to her, “Your brother shall rise again.” ²⁴ Martha said to Him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.” ²⁵ Jesus said to her, “**I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me shall live even if he dies,** ²⁶ **and everyone who lives and believes in Me shall never die.** Do you believe this?” ²⁷ She said to Him, “Yes, Lord; I have believed that You are the Christ, the Son of God, even He who comes into the world.” ²⁸ And when she had said this, she went away, and called Mary her sister, saying secretly, “The Teacher is here, and is calling for you.” ²⁹ And when she heard it, she arose quickly, and was coming to Him.”

1. Develop realistic expectations - Our hope is in Jesus' resurrection, not his ministry to us in this life.

“Unrealistic expectations”

- mental crimes for which emotional disappointment is always the punishment.

Ecclesiastes 1:2,18

“Vanity of vanities! All is vanity. . . in much wisdom there is much grief, and increasing knowledge results in increasing pain.”

1 Corinthians 15:19

“If we have hoped in Christ in this life only, we are of all men most to be pitied.”

1 Corinthians 4:9

“For, I think, God has exhibited us apostles last of all, as men condemned to death; because we have become a spectacle to the world. . .”

“³⁰ Now Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still in the place where Martha met Him. ³¹ The Jews then who were with her in the house, and consoling her, when they saw that Mary rose up quickly and went out, followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to weep there. ³² Therefore, when Mary came where Jesus was, she saw Him, and fell at His feet, saying to Him, “Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died.” ³³ **When Jesus therefore saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her, also weeping,** He was deeply moved in spirit, and was troubled, ³⁴ and said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to Him, “Lord, come and see.” ³⁵ **“Jesus wept.” (not hopeless wailing)**

2. Empathize with the disappointed - disappointment + isolation = despair.

Romans 12:15

“Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep.”

1 Corinthians 12:26

“And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it;”

Hebrews 13:3

“Remember the prisoners, as though in prison with them, and those who are ill-treated, since you yourselves also are in the body.”

I wish you
☐ were here
☐ the best

“³⁶ And so the Jews were saying, “Behold how He loved him!” ³⁷ But some of them said, “**Could not this man, who opened the eyes of him who was blind, have kept this man also from dying?**” ³⁸ Jesus therefore again being deeply moved within, came to the tomb. Now it was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. ³⁹ Jesus said, “Remove the stone.” Martha, the sister of the deceased, said to Him, “Lord, by this time there will be a stench, for he has been dead four days.” ⁴⁰ Jesus said to her, “Did I not say to you, if you believe, you will see the glory of God?” ⁴¹ And so they removed the stone. And Jesus raised His eyes, and said, “Father, I thank You that You have heard Me. ⁴² And I knew that You always hear Me; but because of the people standing around I said it, that they may believe that You sent Me.”

"⁴³ And when He had said these things, He cried out with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come forth." ⁴⁴ He who had died came forth, bound hand and foot with wrappings; and his face was wrapped around with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

3. Expand your vision - Don't limit God to your narrow world and dreams.

*"Would have, could have, should have"
"taken oil in our lamps"*

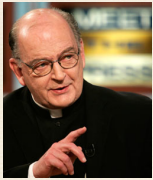
Luke 25 (the parable of the Virgins)

"³ For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them. ⁴ but the prudent took oil in flasks along with their lamps."

The Drama of Passion Week



**To experience the joy of Easter
the false hope of Palm Sunday
must be crushed by Good Friday.**



Richard John Newhouse

"Idolatry is trying
to bring in God's
Kingdom before its
time and without
its King."

**When OUR dreams
bind GOD'S hands
we have lost our
hope and peace.**

⁴⁵ Many therefore of the Jews, who had come to Mary and beheld what He had done, believed in Him. ⁴⁶ But some of them went away to the Pharisees, and told them the things which Jesus had done."

4. Don't expect the world to affirm or share your hope in Christ.

With respect to the Gospel - the world is a hung jury without a unanimous verdict.

John 15:20

"A slave is not greater than his master. If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you;"

Lessons

1. Could this event be designed to prep Jesus' disciples for his coming death and resurrection?
2. Disappointments in life are inevitable.
How we respond to them reveals the nature of our true hope.
3. Empathy in the face of disappointment is a powerful ministry.
Share the disappointment of others with an empathetic tear.
4. Don't confuse your dreams with God's decrees.
Make your goal Godliness rather than "success".

Three disciplines

1. View disappointment as an opportunity to renew hope in Jesus' resurrection.
2. Prep for your response to disappointment.
3. Initiate empathetic contact when others suffer loss.