

HOPE

IN ALL SEASONS

Facing the Coming Crisis - 1 Peter 5:1-14 Message Reflection Guide

READ 2 Timothy 2:1-10 “A Christian fellowship lives and exists by the intercession of its members for one another, or it collapses. I can no longer condemn or hate a brother for whom I pray, no matter how much trouble he causes me. His face, that hitherto may have been strange and intolerable to me, is transformed in intercession into the countenance of a brother for whom Christ died, the face of a forgiven sinner.”

“The more genuine and the deeper our community becomes, the more will everything else between us recede, the more clearly and purely will Jesus Christ and his work become the one and only thing that is vital between us. We have one another only through Christ, but through Christ we do have one another, wholly, and for all eternity.”

— Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *Life Together: The Classic Exploration of Christian Community*

CONVERSATION STARTER

How has a friend helped you through a difficult season of your life?

GETTING INTO THE SCRIPTURES

READ 1 Peter 5:1-14

Nathan & Laura said: **We are to face struggles and crises *in community* and *in humility*.** Why is it important to remind ourselves that these two things are important?

A relationship with God and experiencing who God is must be the ultimate in our life. What are the things that can often get between us and God? Do we make security and comfortability the ultimate in our lives, hoping that God is the key to getting those things? Discuss.

Our hope comes from the fact that no matter what happens in our life, God will be glorified and He will restore us.

How does this truth give you confidence and hope? How are we to respond to God in those moments that feel hopeless?

CHALLENGE

What challenge or crisis are you going through right now? How can you allow God to restore you even in the pain? How can your community help you endure?

Pray for Nathan and Laura Conklin:

- Pray for Nathan and Laura as they're looking at 15 days in quarantine once they arrive back in Taiwan. They'll have to quarantine separately.
- Pray for the Conklin's as they prepare for a move next spring.
- Pray for a smooth move and good goodbyes.
- Pray for the Aroma as it looks for a new building to host its ministries in Taipei.