STARTS WITH HOPE

Joel 1:1-20

Honoring God in a World that doesn't, <u>ends</u> and <u>starts</u> with our <u>God</u> of <u>Hope</u>.

- Assent: Remember and acknowledge the Word of the LORD.
- Lament: Express <u>remorse</u> over the <u>cause</u>, not just the consequences.
- Repent: Turn away from sin and embrace our God of Hope.

When we <u>assent</u>, <u>lament</u>, and <u>repent</u> over our sins, God will restore... even now.

further up, further in

- 1. How do you see the importance of "hearing" and "remembering" the Word of the Lord in your life? *See Psalm* 119:9-16.
- 2. What does it mean to be sorrowful over the "cause" rather than the "consequence" of sin? See Psalm 51:4; James 4:8-10. How do you maintain a proper understanding of which is which?
- 3. Why is repentance an ongoing process, and not just a one-time act?
- 4. What is God's promise to us when we genuinely repent? See Joel 2:12-13; 1 John 1:8-9; 2 Chronicles 7:14; 2 Cor 5:17-21.
- 5. What is the church's role in this process of assenting, lamenting, and repenting?
- 6. As you consider and interact with the world around you, what does it mean, to "Start with Hope"?



[&]quot;I have come home at last! This is my real country! I belong here. This is the land I have been looking for all my life, though I never knew it till now.... Come further up, come further in!" — C.S. Lewis, The Last Battle