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## Resources

- Watch or listen to Sunday's sermon: [abfboone.com/sermon-archive](http://abfboone.com/sermon-archive)
- Find Life Group resources: [abfboone.org/groups/resources](http://abfboone.org/groups/resources)

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## Romans 5:1-5

<sup>1</sup>Therefore, since we have been declared righteous by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>2</sup>We have also obtained access through him by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God. <sup>3</sup>And not only that, but we also rejoice in our afflictions, because we know that affliction produces endurance, <sup>4</sup>endurance produces proven character, and proven character produces hope. <sup>5</sup>This hope will not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

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## Sermon Outline:

1. Jesus has come for us
2. Jesus is with us
3. Jesus will come back for us

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## Life Group Leader Notes:



## *Weekly Discussion Guide*

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This week's sermon is all about Hope and is not just a blind optimism for something happening in the future, but is a **confident expectation** for something specific to happen. Is this how you have historically understood hope? If not, what do you think of the new definition? How will it change the way you place hope in things and people?

Pastor J.P. described Advent as a time for re-calibration as we reflect on Jesus' first coming (adventus in the Latin & parousia in the Greek) while also hoping and eagerly anticipating his second coming. In what ways can you re-calibrate your heart and mind this advent season? What stands out as the most important thing your heart can hope for right now?

Rom. 5:1 says, "Therefore, since we have been declared righteous by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ." Why does the declaration of righteousness produce peace specifically?

Reflect on the afflictions you might have experienced in 2021. Which were due to sin or poor decisions and which were from your Christian witness? Is there a difference in what was produced in your life through the 2 different types?

If you have suffered for the name of Jesus, can you attest to the pattern Paul gives of affliction producing endurance, which then produces HOPE?

Pastor JP gave a list of things that Christmas WAS about and was NOT about. Have your group fill in the blanks: Christmas is not about \_\_\_\_\_, but is about \_\_\_\_\_. What do you notice? Is there a pattern of correct and or incorrect thinking?

