

# HOPE

A Good Place to Find Life

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## Small Group Discussion Guide — May 24, 2026

- Series: I Declare
  - Sermon: But Now
  - Scripture: Job 42:1-6, Job 19:25
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### CONNECT

What's something you used to dislike that you now love or appreciate?

### FOLLOW-UP FROM LAST WEEK

Last week's message centered on Habakkuk's decision to trust God even when everything around him felt hopeless. In the midst of uncertainty, he declared, 'yet I will rejoice in the Lord.' What "yet" statements of your own did you reflect on last week? In what ways did they strengthen and/or reshape your trust in God?

### ENGAGE

1. The story of Job can be difficult if we focus only on his suffering, but there is so much more to this teaching to understand. What was most meaningful or challenging about this week's sermon?
2. Read Job 19:25. How did Job's faith in his Redeemer point forward to the person and work of Jesus?
3. Read Job 42:1-6. Now, put yourself in Job's shoes. After many seriously deep trials, what stands out to you about his final posture before God?

### APPLY

1. If we're all on a journey to better understand our "self" and our "size", consider this: What currently serves as the "ruler" or measure of your life? Now, imagine using God as your ruler instead. How would you describe your self and your size in relation to Him. What changes?
2. Today's teaching suggested that our expectations often shape both how we experience life and how we struggle in our faith. Complete this sentence honestly: "I thought if \_\_\_\_\_, then \_\_\_\_\_."

How have those expectations affected your relationship with God? What might it look like to move beyond simply understanding truths about God in your head and begin experiencing deeper trust, intimacy, and surrender with Him in your heart?

3. Have you ever heard or can you relate to the phrase, "I feel like Job"? In other words, it's one unfortunate thing after another. But if we feel like Job, we should also suffer the way he suffered. His faith became deeper despite his suffering,

and after it all Job declares, “*But now* I have seen you with my own eyes.” Consider your own hardships. What does “but now” mean for your life and your relationship with Christ in this season?

### **GOING DEEPER**

Reflect on the story of Job and the additional scriptures from this week’s teaching. What areas of your life feel most “me-centered”, the places where your desires, control, identity, or comfort have begun to create bondage instead of freedom?

What might it look like to become smaller so that your desire for God Himself becomes greater?

### **PRAYER**

Dear Heavenly Father, thank you for this day and for the way you love us. It’s so easy for us to try to reduce you to formulas and theories, Father, please forgive us. May we become a people, like Job, who acknowledge our smallness; who, in everything, stay fixed on you and your goodness for us. May you become bigger in our lives, and we become less. May we stay open, present, and curious to what you may want to teach us; what the Holy Spirit has to teach us; and to always look to you. In Jesus’ name we pray, Amen.

### **ADDITIONAL SCRIPTURE**

Job 13:15

Matthew 16:25

Ecclesiastes 5:2-3

### **QUOTES**

“He who has God has everything. He who has God and everything has no more than he who has God.” C.S. Lewis

“In my deepest heart I know that some of us have to face our comfortable, self-oriented lives all over again. The times are too tragic, God’s sorrow is too great, man’s night too dark, the Cross is too glorious for us to live as we have lived, in anything short of Holy obedience.” Thomas Kelly