



## **Sermon Discussion Questions**

### **Hope in a House of Blues: Part 4 of 4 Lamentations 4-5**

#### **INTRODUCE IT**

The final "D" in our Hope in a House of Blues Series is "Death." Different people have different experiences with death. For me, I remember my first experience was when three of my grandparents all died within three months of one another. It was painful and tiring to watch my parents face death over and over in those months.

Share as a group your own journeys around death. Share what was hardest in those encounters and fears it may stir within you.

As you do this study this week, keep in mind that we were never created to know death and its sting. Adam and Eve were created for life and not death, yet because of Adam's disobedience, we all feel the pain of death.

#### **STUDY THE PASSAGE**

##### **Read Lamentations 4**

Remember that Lamentations is written as a reflection on the death of a city and a people: Jerusalem and the Israelites. In this chapter, the author compares what the city was like when it was alive. List all the ways the city and the people were alive.

Now, list all the signs of death within the city.

Following the example given in this chapter, what are signs of life around us? What are signs of death all around us?

##### **Read Lamentations 5**

This chapter gives a list of ways the Israelites now have to live because of the death they experienced. What are the ways they now must live?

In what ways does humanity have to live in light of death? In other words, what are all the ways you see us trying to face death or even to escape it?

#### **The Hope:**

What hope do we have in view of death? Share with one another what is on the other side of death.

Talk as a group what you have found to be most helpful when you walked with someone or had someone walk with you when you experienced the pain of death.

What stood out to you today in the sermon that helps you to face the reality of death?

#### **USE IT**

As a group, identify people that have recently (in the past year) experienced the death of a loved one. Commit to writing a note of Hope to those people this week. Maybe it's just a note to say, "Remembering the one you lost this week and praying for your heart as you miss them."