

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. When you find yourself in a desperate situation, how much help is it to know that the person helping you has actually “been there” and walked in your shoes?
2. How does hope bring rejoicing for us, even while we might still suffer? How does knowing the end of the story give us glad hope even in the dark moment?
3. In this story Jesus gave tender care to a desperate woman. How does He need to enter into your life and bring the light of hope to your darkness?
4. How are we enslaved to the fear of death? How does that fear evidence itself in our lives?
5. In Psalm 90:12 Moses writes, “So, teach us to number our days that we might get a heart of wisdom.” How does having a clear view of our mortality give us wisdom to live better in the moment? How is our life affected if we don’t?
6. Christians sometimes think that what Jesus came to do was simply to take us to heaven when we die. How does this story change the way we think about redemption, and the depths to which redemption will go?
7. How does this story call us to proclaim differently the coming of Immanuel, God with us? If redemption means that the darkness of the curse is pushed back in all of life, then how does that change how we proclaim it?