



Pastor's Corner

Dear Friends,

Sometimes, we need some words of encouragement to remind us of the *big picture*. It's easy to get caught up in the minute details of our lives...some of which are good and uplifting, and some which drag us down mentally and spiritually. Throughout history, God has raised up leaders to speak words of hope (in addition to words of caution and warning), because the people needed to hear his words of hope. They needed to remember that God was with them, loved them, and wanted them to walk in his ways so that they might experience the abundant life. Prophets were called to speak difficult, yet ultimately loving, words when the people turned away from God, and we find their words all through the Old and New Testaments. This past Sunday we looked at Isaiah 11 and the vision of a world redeemed and reset to what God created it to be: one of justice, righteousness, peace, harmony. It's a vision we all need, isn't it? I know I do, because I get disheartened at times. The hope in our stories, as Resurrection People, is that we know how it all will end—and, spoiler alert, it ends really really well! God will always have the final word, and his word is Love, Grace, Life (I guess that's actually three final words, not one....) So, in the midst of our trials, which definitely feel too heavy to bear at times, we remember the promise Jesus gave us: it's all temporary. The sorrow, the pain, the brokenness, the struggles we have, when we try to follow the only one who is perfect: there will be a day when they will all be wiped away. A day when every "knee will bow and tongue confess ... the glory of the Lord." Until then, we press on, and we walk alongside one another, encouraging ourselves with the Good News of God's grace. Thank you for walking with me on this truly beautiful, sometimes messy, journey. And, even more than that, thanks be to God for his great faithfulness!

Pastor Kara

