



Sermon Discussion Guide

Aug. 30 & 31, 2025

"How Can I Find My Place in God's Story?"

[Matthew 7:24-27](#)

During this series, we will explore how to make sense of the Bible and why it is still relevant today. Each week, we'll tackle one big question about the Bible, including why it matters and how you can find your place in God's story.

PRAY & CONNECT

Open in prayer and invite the Holy Spirit into your conversation. Ask God for wisdom and discernment and trust him to guide you. Take time to recap the message or view it on [hopeonline.tv](#). Did you have any ah-ha moments where you felt convicted, compelled, or inspired during the sermon? What's been on your mind this week? Have you been able to apply the message to your everyday life?

GROW

Read [Matthew 7:24-27](#) – **"Building a Solid Foundation"**

- What do you think Jesus means by building on a foundation?
- Why do you think storms come to everyone, no matter what foundation they have?
- What are some ways you can start building your life more on God's word?
- How have storms or challenges revealed the strength or weakness of your faith foundation?

Read [John 11:33-44](#) – **"The Raising of Lazarus"**

- What do you notice about Jesus' emotions when he comes to Lazarus' tomb? Why do you think he wept even though he knew he would raise Lazarus? What does that tell you about God's heart for us in our pain?
- Why do you think Jesus calls Lazarus by name? How does it encourage you to think that God knows your name and your story?
- What might "coming out of the tomb" look like in someone's life today? How has Jesus brought new life or freedom into your story?
- What does it mean to help unbind people so they can walk in the new life Jesus gives?

Read [Isaiah 55:10-11](#) – **"Invitation to the Lord's Salvation"**

- What did you feel hearing students talk about reading Scripture before a soccer game or audition?
- During the "Word of God Speak" moment, what stirred in you about being still to hear God?
- Which story from the sermon most encouraged you about Scripture bearing fruit in weakness?
- What convictions does Isaiah 55 give leaders about trusting God's word more than other things?

Read [Psalm 34:18](#) – **"A Psalm of David"**

- What do you think it means that God is "close to the brokenhearted"? How might that be comforting for people who are hurting?
- How has God "rescued" you or given you hope when your spirit felt crushed?
- How can trusting God's closeness change the way you face suffering? What role does prayer, Scripture, or community play in reminding you of God's presence? How have past hardships shaped your understanding of God's compassion?
- What does it look like to walk with others in their brokenness without trying to fix everything?

APPLY

Pick one of the applications below to put into practice this week.

- **Be still.** Each day this week, pause for five minutes to quiet distractions and invite God to remind you that he is near. Let his presence steady you when life feels busy or overwhelming.
- **Check your foundation.** Take time to reflect on one area of your life that feels shaky. Ask yourself, is it built on "sand" or on the solid rock of Jesus' teaching? Choose one concrete way to rebuild that part of life on him this week.
- **Show up in the storm.** Look for someone going through a storm and step in with tangible love—whether it's listening, helping, or simply being present. Let them see God's care through your actions.