



Christ Preserves His People Until the Fullness of His Kingdom Comes



SESSION AIM

Help teachers and group leaders explain the church's future hope in Christ, how future hope shapes present faithfulness, and why the church lives in expectation of Christ's return and Kingdom fulfillment.



BIG IDEA

The church lives between Christ's resurrection and His return. Believers worship, serve, persevere, and bear witness with confident hope because Christ reigns now, will gather His church, will judge evil, will establish His Kingdom openly upon the earth, and will reign forever with His redeemed people.



WHAT THIS SESSION BUILDS UPON

From Leader Sheets 1–15:

- The church belongs to Christ.
- Worship forms believers.
- The church bears witness to Christ's Kingdom.
- Holiness and covenant life matter.
- The church is sent into the world faithfully.

This Session Expands:

- Christian hope.
- Perseverance.
- Resurrection and restoration.
- Living faithfully in light of eternity.



FOUNDATIONAL SCRIPTURES

- 1 Thessalonians 4:13–18
- Titus 2:11–14
- Philippians 3:20–21
- 1 Corinthians 15
- Revelation 20:1–6
- Romans 8:18–25
- Revelation 21:1–5



PRINCIPLE

The church lives in hope because Christ will return for His people, judge evil, establish His Kingdom upon the earth, and reign forever with His redeemed people.



RECOMMENDED VISUALS

- Embassy of the Kingdom
- Worship → Formation → Mission
- The Church and the Mission of Christ
- The Church and Future Hope
- The Gathered Church



TEACHING FLOW: HOW TO USE THIS SHEET

1

BEGIN WITH THE HOPE OF CHRIST'S RETURN



- Christ reigns now in heaven.
- He will return for His church.
- Believers await His appearing with hope.

USE THIS:

- Titus 2:11–14
- Philippians 3:20–21
- Articles
- Visuals
- Key Passages



KEY EMPHASIS: The church lives in expectation of Christ's return.

2

TEACH THE RESURRECTION HOPE OF THE CHURCH



- Believers will be raised.
- We will live eternally with Christ.
- God will restore and renew all things.
- The Kingdom will be made complete.

USE THIS:

- 1 Corinthians 15
- Revelation 21:1–5
- Articles
- Visuals
- Key Passages



KEY EMPHASIS: Christian hope is bodily, eternal, and Kingdom-centered.

3

TEACH THE FUTURE HOPE OF THE CHURCH



The church's hope is not escape from responsibility, but confidence in Christ's victory and promises.



KEY EMPHASIS: Christ will gather His people and reign openly upon the earth.

4

ADDRESS MODERN DISTORTIONS



- Fear-driven Christianity.
- Escapism and withdrawal.
- Despair and hopelessness.
- Political obsession.
- Institutional anxiety.

USE THIS:

- Discussion Starters
- Articles
- Examples
- Key Truths



KEY EMPHASIS: The church lives with confident hope under Christ.

5

SHOW HOW HOPE STRENGTHENS MISSION



- Hope gives us courage.
- Hope produces endurance.
- Hope fuels mercy and love.
- Hope strengthens Gospel witness.
- Hope empowers faithful service.

USE THIS:

- Acts 1:8
- 1 Peter 2:9–12
- Articles
- Key Passages



KEY EMPHASIS: Hope strengthens perseverance and witness.

6

APPLY PRACTICALLY



- Persevere faithfully under Christ.
- Worship with confidence and joy.
- Live with Kingdom-minded priorities.
- Encourage one another daily.
- Bear witness courageously.

USE THIS:

- Application Ideas
- Handouts
- Stories
- Examples



KEY EMPHASIS: Live today in light of the future Christ has promised.



KEY EMPHASES



CHRIST WILL GATHER HIS CHURCH

Believers live in expectation of His coming.



RESURRECTION IS CENTRAL TO HOPE

We await bodily restoration and eternal life.



HOPE STRENGTHENS FAITHFULNESS

Future confidence shapes present obedience.



THE KINGDOM WILL BE FULFILLED

Christ will reign openly and visibly upon the earth.



THE CHURCH PERSEVERES TOGETHER

Believers endure as one covenant people under Christ.



COMMON CONFUSIONS

- ✗ **"Christian hope is escapism."**
Biblical hope strengthens faithful living in the present world.
- ✗ **"The church's future depends on cultural success."**
Christ preserves His church.
- ✗ **"Hope means ignoring suffering."**
Christian hope sustains believers through suffering and endurance.
- ✗ **"The Kingdom is only spiritual."**
Christ will reign openly and visibly upon the earth.
- ✗ **"Prophecy exists mainly for speculation."**
Biblical prophecy strengthens hope, endurance, and faithfulness.
- ✗ **"The church should live in fear."**
The church lives in confidence under Christ's reign and promises.



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1 How does the promise of Christ's return strengthen the church?
- 2 Why should future hope produce holiness and perseverance?
- 3 What will happen during the Tribulation and why does it matter?
- 4 How does hope strengthen Gospel witness?
- 5 What does it mean that Christ reigns now and will reign openly? How should believers live while awaiting Christ's return?
- 6



APPLICATION FOCUS

- ✓ Persevere faithfully under Christ.
- ✓ Worship with confidence and hope.
- ✓ Live with Kingdom-minded priorities.
- ✓ Encourage believers who struggle.
- ✓ Bear witness courageously in the world.



PRAYER FOCUS

- Pray for perseverance and courage.
- Pray for hope in suffering.
- Pray for faithful witness.
- Pray for longing for Christ's return.
- Pray for Christ to strengthen His church.