

SPARKS OF JOY Romans 12:12

April 26, 2020

CONNECT

1. What are some things that have brought you joy recently? In what ways has this pandemic changed your perspective on what matters most?

CELEBRATE

2. Read Romans 8:18–25. These verses share the promise of God turning groans into glory, both for creation and for His children. How does Covid-19 and other tragedies fit into this passage? What glimpses of glory show God's hand at work in the midst of it?
3. Read 1 Peter 1:3–5. What does living hope come through? How does someone become a partaker of that?
4. How often do you think about the hope of eternity? What are some ways the hope of eternity could change or enhance your perspective right now?
5. Romans 12:12 tells us three things that living hope sparks—joy, patience and prayer. Take a moment to reflect on each of these. To what extent have they been or not been evidenced in your life this past week?

CONTRIBUTE

6. Last week we were invited to set aside Wednesdays as a day of fasting and prayer. For those who fasted this past week, how did God meet you? For those who did not, would you consider joining this coming week? For some practical help, visit pastormatthew.net/an-invitation-to-fast.
7. Where is God's hope needed right now? Be specific. What are you facing personally? Who in your life needs to be encouraged with God's hope? Spend some time in prayer about the things you've shared.