



Sermon Notes

Embracing Hope Part 37 – Unmasking Hope
November 1, 2020

A mask is a disguise.

“Wearing a mask wears you out. Faking it is fatiguing. The most exhausting activity is pretending to be what you know you’re not.”

Rick Warren

When we wear a mask, we are placing hope in it.

When there are no absolutes - it’s all relative.

Relative: something dependent on external conditions for its specific nature.

We serve an absolute God who absolutely made us exactly how He saw fit, absolutely loves us, absolutely wants a relationship with us, absolutely wants us to be comfortable in our own skin, absolutely wants us to hope in Him.

Wrong is wrong, even if everyone is doing it. Right is right, even if no one is doing it.

Psalm 24:1-2

*1 The earth is the Lord’s, and everything in it,
the world, and all who live in it;
2 for he founded it upon the seas
and established it upon the waters.*

God is the only absolute in this world!

God’s truth is the only remedy for the masks we wear.

Ephesians 6:10-14

*10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. 11 Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes. 12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. 13 Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. 14 Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist
Truth: the real facts about something: the things that are true.*

We often don’t want to look at what is behind the mask.

As believers - the Truth resides in us.



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John 14:16-17

*16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever—
17 the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.*

The Spirit of Truth dwells in us as believers.

We are not our own - and we are not on our own!

The Truth is in us and with us wherever we go, and in each situation we face.

2 John 1:2

2 because of the truth, which lives in us and will be with us forever

God wants His people to be passionate and powerful!

Passion and power happen when we lay down the mask!

John 14:26

26 But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.

God wants us to get it!

How do we learn to lay down the mask? Listen and submit

John 10:27-28

27 My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. 28 I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand.

James 4:7

7 Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

