

The Best is Yet to Come
John 16:16-24
Sunday, May 1, 2022

John 16:21 ESV

²¹ When a woman is giving birth, she has sorrow because her hour has come, but when she has delivered the baby, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that a human being has been born into the world.

John 16:22 ESV

²² So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you.

Big idea - act today with the end in mind because the best is yet to come!

I. Questions Are Raised

John 16:16–19 ESV

¹⁶ “A little while, and you will see me no longer; and again a little while, and you will see me.” ¹⁷ So some of his disciples said to one another, “What is this that he says to us, ‘A little while, and you will not see me, and again a little while, and you will see me’; and, ‘because I am going to the Father’?” ¹⁸ So they were saying, “What does he mean by ‘a little while’? We do not know what he is talking about.” ¹⁹ Jesus knew that they wanted to ask him, so he said to them, “Is this what you are asking yourselves, what I meant by saying, ‘A little while and you will not see me, and again a little while and you will see me’?”

“16:17 His disciples were confused. The reason for the confusion was that in verse 10, the Savior had said, “I go to My Father, and you see Me no more.” Now He said, “A little while, and you will not see Me; and again a little while, and you will see Me.” They could not reconcile these statements. In 16:18 they asked each other the meaning of the words “a little while.” Strangely enough, we have the same problem today.” – *Believers Bible Commentary*

II. Joyful Events Will Unfold

John 16:20–22 ESV

²⁰ Truly, truly, I say to you, you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice. You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy. ²¹ When a woman is giving birth, she has sorrow because her hour has come, but when she has delivered the baby, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that

a human being has been born into the world. ²² So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you.

16:21–22. Jesus illustrated the truth of pain replaced by joy using the pain of childbirth followed by the joy of new life when a child is born.

III. Hope Is Given

John 16:23–24 ESV

²³ In that day you will ask nothing of me. Truly, truly, I say to you, whatever you ask of the Father in my name, he will give it to you. ²⁴ Until now you have asked nothing in my name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.

God has a plan!

- Times may get difficult
- Times may get rough
- But have hope, God is in charge!

SEED Group Questions
The Best is Yet to Come
John 16:16-24

Share any victories or struggles from last week.

1. The title of the message is “The Best is Yet to Come.” Read Romans 8:28 and explain how this truth helps you when you are facing difficulty. How can we misapply this verse and seem pompous and super-spiritual?
2. When you think of the statement “in a little while” what comes to mind? Read John 16:16-20 aloud before answering.
3. Read John 16:20 -21 – the illustration of childbirth illustrates what point? How has this verse played out in your life going from pain to seeing God use the pain to bring greater joy?
4. In the message pastor said, “live and act today for what you want your future to be.” Explain this in practical terms. How can this help you in your marriage, childrearing, job, and especially your walk with the Lord?
5. What do you have a hard time believing will get better in “a little while?” Read 1 Thess. 5:16-18. How do these verses encourage and challenge you?
6. In 16:33,34 Jesus tells his disciples that when they ask anything in His name it will be given to them. Does this promote “name it, claim it” theology? If not, what is His meaning, and how do we so often miss it?
7. Share a hope from God’s word that has helped you.