

[00:00:00] Speaker A: Welcome to the Hope Church Glasgow Sunday podcast. We pray you encounter God's love afresh today. Find out more about us@hopechurchglasgow.org or find us on Facebook and Instagram. Now, please enjoy this week's podcast.

[00:00:19] Speaker B: It's so nice to be here.

I know I've not been out here on a Sunday morning for a little while, but I feel really connected to you all and it is family, isn't it?

And you guys are not on your own as Hope Church. We are very fond of Hope Church for a number of reasons.

Partly. These two over here, they're all right, aren't they?

And yeah, you guys have been such a blessing to us for a long time. I looked back, do you know, now we can check when we've done stuff in life really just by scrolling back through photos on our phones.

That's kind of the modern day diary in some ways, isn't it? And So I found 2014 pictures of us together. If I'd have thought about it, I could have got slides up.

But yeah, 2014 was when we came up with Julian and Katya and hung out and we've kind of been journeying and growing and doing this ever since. And so it's really exciting.

We talk about you guys back at home and that might seem odd if you've not been around for very long, but it's really precious that, that church families know that they are connected to other church families. Because we are one in the body of Christ, aren't we? And the enemy wants to play this little game where he tells you that you're on your own and that you're somehow insignificant and you don't have brothers and sisters and extended family.

But that's not the deal at all. And even for you guys, I know you're quite a gathered church.

I don't know how far away the furthest extremes are of people who are part of Hope Church, but I guess there's quite a lot of miles in between.

Well, I know you.

Yeah, but that's not going to be for long, is it?

But there is a bit of that for us. We've got some guys who, we're in Chelmsford, which is right in the middle of Essex, if you've not been. And we've got some guys who live in East London who come to us and it takes them 45 minutes to get to us on a Sunday morning.

And so that's quite a commitment. And then we've got, we've got people from Malden who come to us people from Southend who come to us. So it's quite Southend South End, isn't it?

See Jan comes and with her accent everyone just is like they all wanted to go and read them a bedtime story.

And the problem is my accent is not quite as cute and so yeah, I don't want people to be scared by the, by the Essex accent.

There's a lot of English people in Hope Church.

Yeah, that's going to change.

It's not going to stay that way.

So yeah.

Oh, is there baby action going on?

You see that's just the most brilliant distraction ever.

So stuff's happened in the last two years then since I was here last on a Sunday morning and those guys have happened and this guy's happened, so that's new.

And also in the last two years I had the pleasure of going on two trips. One with Jan to Brazil with Randy Clark, which was amazing and then straight after that one with Andy over to India and we ministered over there to a couple of places. I'm sure Andy's filled you in.

Both of those trips were wild for completely different reasons.

Jan's was slightly more comfortable in a nice hotel.

The one with Andy was not quite so comfortable. But I think it stretched me even more being out of an English speaking context to the point. I mean I know Brazil's out, not English speaking but like non western.

But I just wanted to say thank you to both of you for feeling that sense of Pete should come with me on this trip.

Those trips marked me.

They grew me a lot in a lot of ways and I am so grateful and I know I'm forever changed by those trips and the fire that is in me just got bigger and brighter. And one of the things that's brilliant about the fire of God is that when we share it with each other, it increases.

The fire of God tends to stop when you stop giving it away.

So it's designed to be thrown around and so we will do some of that in a bit. I've got a word for you as a church that I felt God speak to me about while we were at the airport to come here.

Now I'm a simple guy, okay?

So you will see, as I tell you this word, you will see where the inspiration came from.

I've entitled this message refitting the aircraft.

Okay?

So this is what I saw and I think I feel like there's in this process there is some being equipped that is going on right now for you. I feel like there's some stuff to let go of and get rid of that was from a previous season.

And I just saw words like clarity and confidence and even compulsion or maybe propulsion being

injected into this place as I'm speaking, as I'm sharing. And I feel like this is as much for you all, but I know it's for you.

As you're embarking, John, on the role that you've got here, I just want to commend this team to you.

It's first, because I wasn't up here for the elderization, deodorization, pulverization that you've experienced, but I just want to add my weight to it and go, I really love this guy.

And, yeah, God's obviously directed his steps, you know, that you don't need any convincing of it, but it's just a beautiful thing to see you coming and being able to lead this team forward.

And also, I really love Jan and Mark. And Mark, you guys are.

Where is he?

Oh, has he gone out? Okay, well, you can tell him later.

He's all right.

No, it's beautiful what God is doing. And the way that you're navigating this transition has been amazing. And Andy and Teresa, I want to honor you for the way that you are letting go of, you know, taking hands off. I know it's not going to be out of your hearts, but in terms of that, that sense of transition is not an easy thing.

And actually it shouldn't be.

It shouldn't be difficult, but it should be considered.

It should be thought through. And you've been thinking that through and navigating that as team, and that's really, really precious. And Teresa, for you as well, the way that you've had a role of holding this in your own way, the way God has called you to do that, and this bit, it's not an easy thing, but it's amazing to see you doing it. To see you both doing it, entrusting it to another generation for this next day, and yet still being here and being a part of is a really precious, multi generational vision that you've got going on. I've seen way uglier versions, way more difficult versions, way more problematic versions, and this is brilliant. And seeing you guys smiling and worshipping Jesus as you are is amazing.

All right. So I feel really connected to you. I'm not just saying these things because this is like, the speaker has to say nice things to leaders in the church thing. That's weird. Yeah.

I'm not trying to butter anybody up.

Anyway, let me get on with this word. So I saw a picture of a plane, not a small plane, rather a plane built for purpose.

It was in part a cargo plane with a large space for resources and equipment for the mission.

But there were also seats, not so much as passengers in a civilian sense, but for team, for the crew, for active soldiers who are part of the assignment.

There were lots of seats.

They had names on your names.

And there was space for more seats for more people whose names will be written on them.

And I've kind of restructured what I thought I might bring this weekend around. This word.

I wonder what you think about Hope Church. How would you describe Hope Church? What do you love about Hope Church? We had some time with some of the leaders on Friday night, and there were some different words that were being shouted out across the table as to how people felt about the church. The word family came up. I'm seeing some nodding heads around the room. That's good.

It should feel like family, shouldn't it?

Home.

That's a great word. Worship, Supernatural encounters, freedom, joy and fun. There were lots of words. And, you know, our experience of you, of being with you over years and recently is actually that same sense of the joy, the fun, prophetic culture that is. Is so rich in this place. I love how spirit led. You are worshiping. Your worship culture is beautiful. I know you know that, but it is.

And it's worth saying you put King Jesus front and center, and that is a beautiful thing. And. And sometimes being with you, like last night, there's moments it feels like flying and. And so my analogy fits.

It feels like we're destined for the high places, not to be in the dirt, on the ground, scrabbling around.

We're up there with a perspective that is from heaven and that's glorious.

And I wanted to say to you, this church, this plane is not flimsy.

You wouldn't want to trust a flimsy plane that was going to take you for a ride, would you?

You wouldn't. You would want to know that the frame of that thing has integrity. And I kind of want to mess with your heads a little bit because in one sense, you're people on the plane, but you're also the plane.

And I want to say to you that there is structural integrity to you as individuals and to this church. Church.

Like I could come and give you a shake and. And bits aren't going to fall off.

And the reason for that is because you are fused together with Jesus, aren't you?

You are in him. He is in you.

Yeah. And so he is holding you together as Colossians one says, he's holding all things together. He's holding us as individuals, and he's holding this church together.

Just settle that issue for a minute. Jesus is holding your church together.

It's not the leader's job to do that.

It's their job to keep in step with him.

But it's not their church.

And it wasn't Andy and Teresa's church.

It's always been his church, and he'll build it.

And he's not bothered whether you agree with him or not.

He holds it together.

So I just also, I feel like let's just take off any pressure that we've got right now to think that this is on us.

Your only job is to take the next step with him.

That's it.

This is because our foundations are in him, aren't they? And we, over Easter Sunday, we just baptized half a dozen people on Easter Sunday morning.

And we've. It's been a real journey for us. We've baptized. I think it was 31 people over the last three years as a church. And we got to the point where we didn't have our own pool for baptizing anyone.

And so we would either go, like, and borrow somebody else's church, or we'd get, like, an oversized paddling pool, or we'd borrow other people's stuff. And it was just always, like, really just too much, like, hard work. And so we invested in our own pool. And I contacted this company that make these wooden baptistery pools with liners in them.

And I phoned this guy up, and I said, can we order one of your pools? And he said, if you'd have phoned me six months ago, you could have had one within six weeks.

And he said, but now the waiting list is six months.

Because the number of churches now baptizing people, the number of people being baptized across the UK has gone up so much.

We have a friend who runs an online, like, pretty Christian stationary business thing.

And it's great, really good. Treasure the faith. You can look her up.

And she has been absolutely inundated with people wanting baptismal cards to give to people.

People are profiteering off of the fact that baptisms are happening because people are turning to Jesus in our nation at an amazing rate. And we've seen salvations in our church in a way that has wrecked us.

We're literally seeing people coming in, encountering Jesus for the first time and having their lives and absolutely transformed.

Addicts who are coming in and their addictions are falling Off.

Like, it's not like loads and loads of programs and stuff. It's literally the power of God touching them. And cocaine addictions are disappearing.

And we've never experienced this before.

And I feel like I want to tell you because I want to release it here, because you've probably got some coke addicts in your city, maybe one or two, and you're going to have them in here.

There should be sinners in church.

There absolutely should be. There should be people who don't yet know Jesus.

There should be, because people are looking.

And the only thing I think, well, there's a number of things that have shifted for us, but I think one of the things is we want them.

We want people in our church who don't yet know Jesus, who we can introduce him to.

Leo's great. She's come with me on this trip.

I want you to meet her.

And I feel the same way about Jesus.

If you're here this morning and you don't know Jesus yet, I want you to meet him. He's my best friend.

I've been walking with him since I was 4 years old.

And he's brilliant and he's changed my life.

And if you don't yet know him, it's as simple as me introducing you to a friend. And I'm going to make a moment at the end. I don't know if there's anyone in here who doesn't yet know Jesus.

We've made a commitment every Sunday morning. We share the gospel.

And some weeks hands go up and some weeks they don't, and it doesn't matter. We keep on communicating that message. And last year, I think we had 25, 26 hands. That went up in last year.

So that's over 50 weeks. That's one every other week.

And you know what? For us, it started when we took one chair and we picked up this chair at our prayer meeting, and we put this chair in the middle of the floor because we hadn't seen anybody come to Faith on a Sunday morning in over 10 years.

That's not right.

That's not healthy church.

It isn't.

You don't go to a restaurant and hear rumors about food.

You don't go to a restaurant and look at a menu and then the waitress comes and then she takes your order and she goes off and she doesn't come back with the food.

But often people experience that in churches, and that's not right. And so we started off with this preming. We put one chair in the middle and. And we Made a commitment to pray for whoever was gonna be person number one who was gonna sit in that chair. And we kept praying and we kept praying week after week until the first person put their hand up in a meeting and gave their life to Jesus.

And then it was like, okay, now we want to pray for the second one.

And we've kept praying and we had to revolutionize our prayer life as a church. Cause we realized that praying once a month at the diarid prayer meeting was actually not really gonna cut.

Had to bother us that people around us don't yet know Jesus.

And it now bothers us. And so we. We share him everywhere we go.

And yeah, our structural integrity. That's what I'm talking about. Your airplane, you're part of the plane. And it's because we are in Jesus. Yeah.

And if we flick open our Bibles to Luke 3, we're going to get there in a minute.

You see, in Luke 3 and Luke 4, what we have, I believe is a blueprint for our lives, for what our lives are immersed in, and a blueprint for the church.

And you see Jesus baptism was really an invitation for each one of us to be immersed into a brand new life.

Yeah.

And it's a very visual picture, isn't it, that God has given us with baptism.

Have you had baptisms here?

Yeah.

And you know, it's an immersive that you just take them down to the Clyde and just.

We did some baptisms in the sea off Frenton, which is like a place near us and nearest bit of sea. And in the summer we decided we were going to do baptisms there.

What we hadn't figured was how shallow it is for how far out you have to go.

We were miles out before it was like waist deep enough to actually baptize. The people on the beach had no idea what we were doing.

We're all kind of just. They said yes. They said it was their free choice to get baptized.

Hear this. Yay.

Anyway, here, right? And we'll get to the Luke, but in a minute. But in Ephesians 4 it says this. There's one body and one spirit. Just as you were called to one hope when you were called one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all who's overall and through all and in all that sounds immersive, doesn't it?

You see, we've got people today, we've got artists and digital creators who want to lead us into these immersive experiences with VR headsets and green screens and smoke machines and Actors and all that kind of stuff.

Jesus invented it when he got hold of this thing, baptism. You were immersed into it, but it's into him and into this life that we now get, where we're no longer on our own, where we're brand new creations. As 2 Corinthians says, it's who we are.

And that means that Hope Church is a brand new creation too.

Because Hope Church, when we got baptized, you were baptized into a church family as well as into Christ, into this fellowship with believers. So we are all connected as one.

Yeah.

Some of you are thinking, I don't know if I want to be connected to this crazy guy from Essex, but that's who we are and it's what the body of Christ is.

And anyway, so we get this ultimate immersive experience. This is the greatest turning point in human history. This is the greatest moment in our lives that is represented here. Let's read this. This is Luke 3, 21 and 22, when all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too.

That's collective. Yeah.

And as he was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven. You are my Son, whom I love.

With you, I am well pleased.

God the Father spoke audibly.

Can you imagine being there for that?

It must have been thrilling for everybody that was in earshot to hear those words.

It must have been thrilling for Jesus who is embarking on this ministry, who is stepping out. First thing that happens is this. It must have been thrilling for him.

But I want to say this, what was spoken over him, it's even more significant and thrilling for the people listening and for us right now reading it, because our structural integrity comes from the fact that the Father is speaking this over us. He is giving us an identity.

And I was 14 years old when I got baptized. And essentially I got baptized because the Bible tells me to do it.

And Jesus got baptized and disciples got baptized and all the, you know, in Acts, baptizing people, baptism, baptism, baptism. I didn't have a revelation at that point of my sonship that this was an opportunity for me to stand and like Jan said earlier on, to stand face to face with Jesus, actually with the Father, and to imagine and to hear and for my Spirit to resonate with those words.

You see, humanity has been wrestling with three questions, Or they've been trying to ignore those three questions. It's the three questions that are answered in. In those words, who am I? How does God feel about me? And do I matter you are his child.

He does love you, and you do matter.

Isn't that amazing?

That gives us structural integrity.

That gives us, when we come together, it creates a confidence in the church that changes everything.

And the thing is, when you got baptized, you were not supposed to leave Jesus in the water.

You went into the water, you and Jesus came out of the water.

Jesus went to the cross, he took you with him, you were co crucified with Christ, you. You both died and you're both resurrected. This is what it's a picture of. Yes, Because Jesus, baptism is actually a picture of the cross, the crucifixion, the resurrection. We've been resurrected with him. Yeah. That's the one baptism we're talking about.

For you have died and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. Colossians 3. 3. So Pete and Jesus got out of the water on the day that I was baptized, and I've been immersed in him ever since.

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come. The old has gone. The new is here.

Yeah. Come on. All right. So that gives us our confidence that we've got integrity. And when we come together as believers, we have structural integrity as a church, Hope Church. That's what you have.

Yeah. And then as you're led by him, he gives you the physical structures, the stuff we need, leadership teams and how we meet and who serves where, and there's all the different stuff that comes with that.

Now, I want you to imagine this plane. Your plane is being refitted, okay? This is not a new plane. How long has Hope church been? Around 20 years.

20 plus years.

23 or 4. Okay. Someone knows somewhere.

Now, here's the thing.

You are being commissioned for a next assignment, the next mission.

Now, if we're really honest, I feel that there might be some pre flight nerves in the house.

And there's a few reasons for that.

You see, some of that might actually be because you've got some previous flight issues, if I can put it that way.

There's pre flight nerves and there's previous flight nerves.

Some of you might be new to this and actually you've not experienced that sense of the adventure, the assignment that God has got for you. But for others, you've been in and around church for a number of years and occasionally we can experience turbulence.

Has anyone ever experienced turbulence in the church?

The odd bit of wobble, the odd moment where we suddenly do that and we wonder what happened?

Yeah, that's all right.

Because we trust him, don't we?

Ultimately, I feel like I want us to get back to this?

Yeah, actually, he holds all things together.

He does.

And he promises that he will provide for us.

For some of you, you're like, do you remember the A team? Do you remember the A team? And no way I'm getting on the plane, fool.

B.A. baracus, come on. That was quite good.

For people under a certain age. You're like, what are you talking about?

That's true. Yeah, but there was no Mr. T, was there?

For some of you, you're looking at Hope Church in the way that you look, the way that we can look at the bumblebee.

According to all known laws of aviation, there is no way a bumblebee should be able to fly.

Its wings are too small and to get its fat little body off the ground.

But the bee, this is important, this is a good statement. But the bee flies anyway because bees don't care what humans think is possible.

I feel like I want to speak that over you.

As a church, we want to get rid of some fear this morning.

The enemy wants to keep you on the ground.

He wants to keep you grounded. He wants to knock you out of the sky if you're flying.

He's just a bugger like that. It's what he does.

Am I allowed to say that in Scotland?

Maybe not, but that's what he wants to do. He wants to rob us of our. Of our God given assignments.

He wants to rob us of confidence that we can trust him.

And let's be honest, the church does not always look that impressive on the outside.

And by the world's assessment of what success or design should look like, it often doesn't look that impressive.

But we're not using our external senses to assess the situation, are we?

We are using our spirit because our spirit is connected to the Holy Spirit. And we are, we are choosing to see from his perspective. And what Jesus sees is a bride that is being made glorious.

And he is the one who is shaping us and he is the one who is guiding us and directing our steps.

And he knows what the assignment is that he's got for you as individuals and for you as a church family.

And we don't want to choose anything else. I don't want to choose anything else.

And I tell you what, this place is not this. Isn't it?

Okay?

Like, I feel like you are being refitted and there is a fresh commissioning to take off and actually to leave the landing pad.

There are new flight paths for you as a church to take.

You are going to drop resources into new Areas, new, even physical geographical areas. You are going to land in other places and there's going to be a rescue mission that's going to go on. There's people that are going to come on this plane because they're going to discover their identity in him and they are going to shake off any fear of flying that they may have.

For some of you, you've been knocked about in the past, and it's time to lay down some of those fears.

Because it will keep you on the ground and it's not what you're born for.

I'm not denying that. Actually, some of the previous seasons might have been a challenge.

We've had really crazy, bonkers, difficult seasons in the past. Definitely some flights that I would not want to take again.

For some of you even feel like, you know what, Pete, you don't understand.

I even had to parachute out of a plane once. It was so bad.

Maybe that's how you feel.

And I am sorry if that's been your experience that you didn't feel safe within the church, within the body of Christ. I'm sorry.

But that's not the day you have to stay living in.

And this is a place of safety. This is a medical plane.

This is a plane where people get healed up, where they receive healing for all of those previous traumas.

It is. It's what you are. It's who you are. You know you are. You can't call a church Hope Church and not be a medical plane, For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you. Plans to give you a hope and a future.

So we are saying all of this because we are still immersed in Jesus. Yeah, we were immersed in the baptismal pool. We are immersed in him. You know, Jesus went straight from the baptismal.

Paul, he went from. Straight from the river where he got baptized, straight into where?

The wilderness. Why? Because he wanted to equip us as new creations to handle the knocks of life.

He wanted to do a rerun of what happened in Genesis. In that place, in that garden, he went and he wanted to say, we're gonna. Let's try this again, shall we, Humanity. We didn't do so well the first time. Let's do this again. And this time you're gonna do it with me. You're gonna do it hand in hand with me.

And we haven't got time now to break down every single one of those temptations, but they are significant. Significant in terms of what he was doing. But I Want to hit on one?

You see, for some of you, we are about to take off and some of you are feeling like, I think I would rather let the next generation do the heavy lifting this time.

And maybe I'm a little more tempted by the comforts that this life has to offer.

We have a cultural obsession with comfort.

We do.

Are you sitting comfortably?

Is the room a good temperature?

Do you have your favorite mug or chair or comfort food?

We have aircon to keep us comfortable all year round. We have comfortable shoes, lounge trousers and joggers. We do not jog in.

We love slippers and throws and spa days with robes and scented candles. We put the word luxury before anything to sound even more comforting. Cars, soap, toilet tissue, which is now even quilted for added comfort.

We impart this to our children. We give them soothers and comfort blankets and snuggly things.

To be comfortable is the ideal.

To know ever increasing levels of comfort is the goal. Have you tried this product? No, you haven't lived in and of itself. It's not wrong. But somewhere satisfying self takes a hold and the temptation to to just get super comfy takes over. And we get tucked under the duvet of home comforts and we lose sight of heaven's commission.

Don't fall for it.

The enemy is wanting to trick you into this so that you get robbed of your purpose on planet earth.

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit. This is Luke 4:1:4. Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, where for 40 days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and at the end of them he was hungry. The devil said to him, are you the Son of God? If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread.

Jesus answered, it is written, man shall not live on bread alone.

The enemy went after comfort.

And if you think about it, if you or I were there, you'd be thinking, Jesus, you've been out here for 40 days. You are really hungry. You are the Son of God. Would it be such a bad thing just to turn those rocks into bread?

And then that would really stick it to the enemy anyway, wouldn't it? Because you've just popped out this miracle.

Except Jesus knew that his sustenance came straight from heaven.

He wasn't going to get sidetracked by trying to do it his way. He was going to be led by his Father, who supplied what he needed.

I want to encourage you. I know you're an amazing church and I'm not in Any way wanting to come here, being critical of anything that's going on. But I want it. Maybe it's a bit of a warning thing.

Don't let these guys do all the work, all the heavy lifting and sit back and think, well, they just seem really enthusiastic.

Please don't do that. You guys are running together.

You are flanking one another as a powerful group of people, from the youngest to the oldest, still

immersed in Jesus.

All right, I'm going to do one more point and then we're going to bring this in for a landing. Is that all right?

The third thing in this passage, these blueprints, this whole set of these three things that we're to be immersed in, this is the one that gives us our purpose.

We've been given an identity through Jesus baptism.

We've dealt with the challenges in life and the temptations that come at us by being with Jesus in the wilderness.

And now we are going to be with Jesus as he goes from there, full of the Holy Spirit into the temple. And he stands up in the temple. Yeah.

So Luke 4, 1421. Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit. And news about him spread through the whole countryside. He was teaching in their synagogues and everyone praised him. Him. He went to Nazareth where he had been brought up.

And on the Sabbath. Some of you have been in this church since you were kids, so you're in the right place. He went to Nazareth where he'd been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom.

He stood up to read and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it was written. The Spirit of the Lord is upon me because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners, recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.

Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. He began by saying to them, today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.

I wanted to go on to that verse because I wanted to say this.

We are immersed in that day.

That day has not finished. It didn't finish on the end of that 24 hour period. You are alive in that day.

Some of you. Isaiah 60:1 has followed you your whole lives.

It should, because it's the apostolic commission that we've been given.

Yeah, you're immersed in him. And the spirit of the Sovereign Lord was on him. Therefore it's on you.

And so you are this plane that is about to take off and I want us to pray together. We're going to stand together in a minute because this is an altogether thing.

It is. This is not an individual assignment thing. It is, but it's not.

It's an all of you thing. If I felt this was just a word for a person, I'd just share it with them, but I wanted to share it with all of you.

We are immersed in Him.

The spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on you, Hope Church, because he has anointed you, Hope Church to proclaim good news to the poor.

He has sent you Hope Church to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind to set the oppressed free.

He has sent you Hope Church to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.

If you've got any doubt what your vision is as a church, this is it.

These three things that these three moments in Jesus life are so, so significant.

Our sonship. We just stopped at baptism.

Our sonship is in these three parts.

And then when we go, we get to then introduce people to Jesus and lead them to the baptismal pool and help them shake off the stuff of their lives and get them in shape, ready for this mission and to go again and to go again and to go again.

Can we stand?

I think if there's some of. You've got to go and get children. Is that a now thing?

Okay, well, I'm going to hold you just for a few more minutes and then we're going to go and get the kids. Is that all right?

All right. Wonderful. First of all, I just wanted to come back to my point that maybe there are some folk here who actually you've never embarked on this relationship with Jesus. You've always just seen that you're an individual person who's just bobbing along through life, making the best of it.

And this morning you've encountered something of his presence in worship.

And then as I've been speaking, there's been something that's been going on in your heart where actually Jesus is wanting to extend an invitation to you.

You know he loves you.

He always wanted you to be caught up in his story.

And actually trying to come up with our own story, it lasts for a little while, but ultimately, as you've probably found out, it disappoints because we can't get enough of this or that or the other to build ourselves the kingdom. That we thought we were supposed to build.

And actually, Jesus this morning is saying to you, come and be part of my story.

Come and be friends with me.

No forgiveness.

Everyone's facing this way. If you just want to close your eyes, if there's anyone in this room and you want to respond to what I'm saying, you'll know it's you because your heart's beating a bit quicker.

And that's okay, because that's Jesus says in Revelation that he knocks on the door of our hearts, and he gives us opportunity to open the door of our own heart and let him in.

And it says that when he comes in, he wants to come in and sit with us, to do relationship with us and dine with us.

So if that's you and you want to put a hand in the air to respond to him, I just want to encourage you to do that.

If you want to give your life to him, And maybe for you, actually, you know that once, a long time ago, you did.

But actually, now it feels like I've been walking at a distance from you for a long time, Jesus.

But I want in on this mission.

I want back in. I want my seat on the plane.

If that's you and you want to put a hand up, put a hand up, because he's inviting you.

He's inviting you to be a part of this, to enjoy the relationship with him and to experience that adventure.

Thank you, Lord.

I'm just gonna pray for us. If you know that actually you've been knocked about on previous flights.

That analogy can stretch far enough. You know that actually for you, the Christian life has not always been plain sailing, and it's caused some sense of distrust to rise in you.

I just want to encourage you right now, in this moment, just give it to Jesus.

Just give it to him. Holy Spirit's here to heal you of those previous wounds.

Where you got knocked about and it did hurt.

Holy Spirit wants to come that anointing oil, he wants to bring it right now where you are and restore you.

And actually, he makes you stronger.

You don't walk with a limp. Once the Holy Spirit has healed you, he strengthens you.

He's strengthening us around this room right now.

If there's any sense of reluctance that has been in your heart for the next season, let it go.

Give it to him.

If your vision has been too small, if the previous season has caused your eyes to drop and to be satisfied with less, it's time to dream again.

It's time to dream bigger.

You are not caterpillars grubbing around in the dirt. He's called you to be butterflies.

He's caused you to have a perspective that is up, up higher with him where he is and to be a display of his glory.

[00:50:14] Speaker A: Thank you for listening to this podcast from Hope Church Glasgow. There are loads more to listen to wherever you normally find your podcasts or from our website, hopechurchglasgow.org if you'd like to know more about us, we are on Facebook and Instagram.

Just search for Hope Church Glasgow. Have a hopeful day.