

The Loss of Real Hope
Romans 1.22-28
11.2.25

²²Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools ²³and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like mortal human beings and birds and animals and reptiles. ²⁴Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. ²⁵They exchanged the truth about God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised. Amen... ²⁶Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts... ²⁸Furthermore, just as they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, so God gave them over to a depraved mind, so that they do what ought not to be done.

- If we _____ Him, God is eager to give us Himself.
- If we ultimately don't want Him, God ultimately _____.
- The craving for forbidden fruit is fueled by a gnawing sense of _____.
- The passing pleasures of sin ultimately leave us _____.
- The Father _____ welcomes us home.

Further reflection/discussion

What do you like about this passage?

What questions do you have?

What do we learn about people? God's heart?

What is something you need to ask/trust the Lord to help you to apply based on this passage?

-----**(Specific questions)**-----

To what extent would you say God is in first place in your life? In your heart?

What are some things that might be keeping you from seeking the Lord with all your heart?

Are there any of God's gifts you have been wasting?

Is there a forbidden fruit you are running after in your life? In your heart? How willing are you to let that go?

Next time: "The Loss of Hope"