

Hope

Here are a collection of thoughts that my messages will be based on throughout the month of September and October.

They come in three categories:

HOPE
COMMUNITY
CHURCH

This is the section on HOPE

HOPE

Jesus is our hope

Romans 15:12

God is the “God of Hope”

This God (and the kingdom He rules) is in us

If the kingdom He rules is hope, then we have hope!

Definition of Hope:

A feeling or expectation and desire for a certain thing to happen

A person or thing that may help or save someone

Grounds for believing that something good may happen

(refer to Jesus is our hope because he is our grounds for something good to happen)

Jesus’ promises outline and give structure to our hope

Example: Jesus rose from the grave. We can now expect that this is part of his design.

We should no longer fear death because Jesus defeated death

Revelation 1:18

Our expectation is based on Jesus, His words and the actions we see him do

Hebrews 13:8

This is not a wish.

Our expectations must be based on these promises or our heart will grow sick from disappointment. Proverbs 13:12

Notice the difference between wishing and hoping.

Wishing is grasping at something that might happen

Hoping is living beyond just believing (faith) it is being convinced that what God said will be accomplished.

Hope is different than faith

Faith is: complete confidence in someone or something, a strong belief IN God

Hope is: believing IN what God has said and the system he has established

Our reality must be based on Jesus' words and example not our current reality

Faith starts our journey (it puts us on the right road)

Hope keeps us walking because we have a road map

Knowing where we are going allows for:

Feelings beyond our circumstances

An easier time keeping our eyes on Jesus because we know what to expect

Faith can be blind and raw

Hope is our ongoing testimony of Jesus' faithfulness

Faith is putting a key in the ignition and knowing it will start

Hope is not having anxiety about the process of putting the key in the ignition

Faith says, "the car will start so I will put in the key and turn it"

Hope says, "even if the car doesn't start, God promised to get me to His promised destination with or without the car!!!"

Faith binds us to Christ

Hope opens our comprehension of the promises of God

Hope is for today not just when we die

Psalm 27:1 & 13

Hope flies in the face of our current reality

Compare the Israelites journey from Egypt to the "Promised Land"

God promised them a final destination

We have left the slavery of sin (Egypt)

God has promised us a final destination too

Hope reminds us what to expect while we walk through the desert

i.e. Deuteronomy 31:6 (I will never leave you...)

Hebrews 13:20 (the God of Peace...make you complete...)

Jeremiah 29:11 (Plans for good and not disaster)

Matthew 11:28-29 (I will give you rest)

Isaiah 40:29-31 (He gives power to the weak...)

Philippians 4:19 (supply all my needs...)

Romans 8:37,38 (overwhelming victory is ours through Christ)

Proverbs 1:33 (all who listen to me will live in peace)

John 14:27 (I am leaving you with a gift-peace of mind and heart...)

Romans 6:23 (wages of sin is death...gift of God is eternal life)

Romans 10:9 (confess with your mouth...you will be saved)

See COMMUNITY

2 Peter 1:4 (escape the world's corruption AND share his divine nature)

See CHURCH