

LIVING HOPE Series | Teaching Notes

Series Kick-Off

1) Set up tension of, Hope in our world today ...

HOPE(Noun) – The feeling that what is wanted can be had or that events will turn out for the best; (verb) to look forward to with desire and reasonable confidence

In English (Hope) usually involves a level of Doubt ...

- I hope I win the lottery
- I hope I pass this test (that I didn't study for)
- I hope it snows tomorrow so we won't have school
- I hope I don't get grounded when my parents find out about ...

Sometimes when we are asked a question of doubt, we respond w/ hope ...

- ME: *Do you think the cubs will ...*
- OTHERS: *I hope so!*

- ME: *Do you think I can lose weight by ...*
- OTHERS: *I hope so!*

2) Biblical Hope – See Devo – Read Hebrews 11:1

Heb 11:1 ESV – “Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.” – NIV – “Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.”

3) What you think you need, may not be what you actually need

- Think you need money, fame, reputation, boyfriend/girlfriend, husband, wife, etc..
- But what you actually need is JESUS

Romans 15:13 NLT – “I pray that God, the source of Hope, will fill you completely with joy and peace because you trust in Him. Then you will overflow with confident hope through the power of the Holy Spirit”

4) 3 Kinds of Hope:

- Wishful Thinking Hope** – roll the dice, cross your fingers, results out of control, full of doubt, isn't important
- Controlled Planning Hope** – calculated, controlled, measured, determined, very important yet risk
- Out Of Options Hope** – Little to no control over something (someone) who's / that's very important

- i. Usually it's here that we turn to God ...
- ii. When we put our Hope in wrong things = bitter disappointment. What we hope in will hold onto us ... said another way ... What we hold onto will end up having a hold on us ... We can become enslaved to those things.
 - 1. Example – Rich Young Ruler
 - 2. Example – Zacchaeus

5) 1 Peter 1:3-9

- a. We fight darkness with LIGHT, fear with FAITH and hate with HOPE.