

НОРЕ



# HOPE

## What is Hope?

- We know it's important and that most people want it and need it desperately
- We see a lack of it all around the world and the hopelessness that so many face
- We understand that at the core of the despair in our culture there is a deep lack of hope
- We know what it feels like to be without hope





# HOPE

## What is Hope?

### 2 Kinds of Hope

#### 1. The World's Hope

- To want something to happen or be true or to cherish a desire with anticipation
- Uncertainty of outcome

#### 2. Biblical Hope

- A *confident* expectation and desire for something good in the future.
- Certainty of outcome because of the object of our hope



# HOPE

## How Does One Obtain Hope?

### 1. Discovering Jesus

- Ephesians 2:12-13... <sup>12</sup> remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. <sup>13</sup> But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.





# HOPE

## How Does One Obtain Hope?

1. Discovering Jesus

2. Trusting & Following Jesus

- Jer 29:11... <sup>11</sup> 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 hope and a future.
- 1 Pet 1:13-15... <sup>13</sup> Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. <sup>14</sup> As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, <sup>15</sup> but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct.



# HOPE

## How Does One Keep Hope?

We lose hope when our “eyes” drift away from Jesus and focus on ourselves or others

- When we put the weight of the world on our own shoulders, it begins to crush our hope
- Peter & Jesus in the water






# HOPE

## How Does One Keep Hope?

### 1. Keep Your Eyes on Jesus

- Hebrews 12:1-3... Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup> looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. <sup>3</sup> Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.
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# HOPE

## How Does One Keep Hope?

1. Keep Your Eyes on Jesus
2. Live in Biblical Community
  - Isolation breeds despair
  - God designed our hope to flourish while in close relationship with other believers
  - Rom 12:4-5... <sup>4</sup> For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, <sup>5</sup> so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.





# HOPE

## How Does One Keep Hope?

1. Keep Your Eyes on Jesus
2. Live in Biblical Community
3. Preach to Yourself

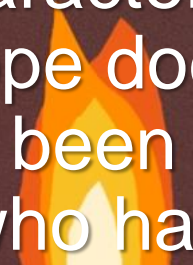
- Psalm 42:11... Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation and my God.



# HOPE

## The End of the Matter

Romans 5:1-5... Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>2</sup> Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. <sup>3</sup> Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, <sup>4</sup> and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, <sup>5</sup> and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.





# HOPE

## The End of the Matter

Hope that is certain can only be found in one place because the object of this hope is certain. This hope is the very hope we celebrate each Christmas as we shift our wavering eyes to the one thing that does not change and does not disappoint. This hope brings light into the darkness, and the darkness cannot overcome it. This hope is Christ alone, and it is available to any who would put their trust in Him.

