

BBCC Bible Study Notes
From the Advent Series
“Hope for the Hopeless”
December 2, 2018

God wants you to live with hope. (Romans 15:4, Jeremiah 29:11)

1. What is hope? Hope is the confident _____ that God will do what He has _____. (Psalm 119:114, Psalm 130:5)

2. If you are a follower of Jesus Christ, why should you live with hope?
(Luke 24:13-49)

- Because God can be trusted to _____.
- Because God can be trusted to accomplish His purpose _____.
- Because God can be trusted to accomplish His purpose _____.

3. What are the benefits of living with hope?

- Hope in God makes you _____. (Isaiah 40:31)
- Hope in God is an _____ for your _____. (Hebrews 6:19)
- Hope in God brings _____ and _____. (Romans 15:13)

4. With whom can you share your hope? (1 Peter 3:15)

BBCC Verse of the Week: “Let your unfailing love surround us, Lord, for our hope is in you alone.” Psalm 33:33 NLT

BBCC Devotional Guide for December 2 - 8, 2018

This week we will look at how we can live with hope as followers of Christ.

Sunday: Read 1 Peter 1:1-2. One important reason a Christian can live with hope is because God has chosen you to be a part of His family. If you are a follower of Jesus Christ, how does it make you feel to know that God has chosen you to be member of His forever family? What are some of the privileges of being adopted into God's royal family? What are some of the responsibilities?

Monday: Read 1 Peter 1:1-2 again and Philippians 2:12-13. As Peter begins his letter he refers to the "sanctifying work of the Spirit." In Philippians, Paul reminds us that God is working in us "according to his good purpose." Whatever may be happening in your life right now, be encouraged because God is at work. It is often through trials, trouble and temptation that God does his work of transformation. Remember that God is much more concerned about developing your character than making you comfortable. Thank God today that He is continually at work in your life.

Tuesday: Read 1 Peter 1: 3-4. Another reason we can live with hope is because God has secured our future. Notice how Peter expresses this truth about our future inheritance: "an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade, kept in heaven for you." There are so many things you can lose in this life. You can lose your health, your wealth, your house, your spouse, and the list goes on and on. BUT when you are a Christian you can never lose your relationship with God! If you are a follower of Christ thank God today that He has secured your future.

Wednesday: Read 1 Peter 3:15. If you are a follower of Jesus Christ you have been given a "living hope" and God wants you to share the reason you have hope with others. According to this verse, *how* are we supposed to share our hope with others? Please consider who you can invite to one of our Christmas Eve services this year so that they can hear about hope. Pray for God to give you the desire and the opportunity to invite them and pray that they will say "yes" and attend.

Thursday: Read Psalm 62:5-8. In these verses the Psalmist describes God as his source of hope. What do you think the Psalmist means when he says, "my salvation and my honor depend on God"? What are we encouraged to do in addition to trusting God? One of the ways that you deepen your relationship with God is by pouring out your heart to Him. Are you taking the time to do this each day? Talk to God today and be very honest about what is going on in your life.

Friday: Read 1 John 3:1-3. Here John reminds us that someday we will stand in the presence of God and see God from an entirely different perspective. What difference should this future hope of seeing God make in our lives? Are there areas of your life that need "purification?" What steps can you take to accomplish this goal?

Saturday: Read 1 Timothy 6:17-18. There are many things in which people put their hope. What is the warning in these verses? Why is the warning given? What do these verses tell us about the nature of God and what He desires for us? Thank God today for being a Father who has promised to provide what His children need.

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1. What is hope? Hope is the confident expectation that God will do what He has promised. (Psalm 119:114, Psalm 130:5)

2. If you are a follower of Jesus Christ, why should you live with hope?
(Luke 24:13-49)

- Because God can be trusted to keep His Word.
- Because God can be trusted to accomplish His purpose in your life.
- Because God can be trusted to accomplish His purpose in this world.

3. What are the benefits of living with hope?

- Hope in God makes you strong. (Isaiah 40:31)
- Hope in God is an anchor for your soul. (Hebrews 6:19)
- Hope in God brings joy and peace. (Romans 15:13)

4. With whom can you share your hope? (1 Peter 3:15)

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