

DAILY DEVOTIONAL



March 23, 2020 – Mr. Brooke



Read: Psalm 100
Topic: Hope (Week 2 Theme)

The word HOPE is used nearly 180 times throughout the entire Bible. Biblical hope is quite different than the way we use the word hope in our everyday lives. We commonly refer to hope as “wishful thinking” or “a feeling.” Think of the many ways we use it:

- I hope the weather is nice today
- I hope I do well on my test
- I hope the Cubs will win the World Series!

While these things are more than appropriate to hope for, they are quite different than the biblical hope we are provided in Jesus Christ. The HOPE we have in our faith is confidence and assurance in the promises of God, the Creator of all things. Our HOPE in the Lord gives us joy, peace, and purpose because there is confidence in the character of the God who provides our HOPE.

To start the week, let’s all read Psalm 100:

Psalm 100

A psalm. For giving grateful praise.

¹ Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth.

² Worship the LORD with gladness;
come before him with joyful songs.

³ Know that the LORD is God.

It is he who made us, and we are his;
we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

⁴ Enter his gates with thanksgiving
and his courts with praise;
give thanks to him and praise his name.

⁵ For the LORD is good and his love endures forever;
his faithfulness continues through all generations.

I have highlighted two promises that allow us great hope. These are powerful truths about the God in Whom we place our hope. Today, be reminded of this:

- The Lord is God
- He made us, and we are His
- We are His people
- The Lord is good
- His love endures forever
- His faithfulness moves through all generations

These are not things we can “wish” for; they are truths that we can live by. When we embrace the promises of a good God, our hope will grow beyond our wildest imagination.



Activity:

While we have already talked about the promises found in Psalm 100, can you think of two other promises God gives us? Call a friend, ask your family, or search for two more in the pages of your Bible.



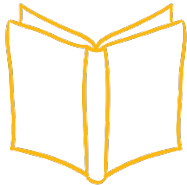
Prayer:

God, help us to put our hope in You and the promises You have given us!

DAILY DEVOTIONAL



March 24, 2020 – Mr. Clum



Read: Psalm 33:4-5, 11, 18, 20-22

Key Verse: Psalm 33:22 – *“May your unfailing love be with us, LORD, even as we put our **hope** in you.”*

In yesterday’s devotion, Mr. Brooke mentioned that the word “hope” is used nearly 180 times in the Bible. Hope is found four times in Psalm 33. Hope can mean a feeling that what one desires will happen, or in the Bible a certainty that something will happen. When I was a child, it was a treat to be able to go out for a meal. On Sunday evenings after church, we had a family tradition that I hoped for each week. My parents would give each of us children \$1, and we would stop at McDonald’s after church for supper. Yes, with \$1 I could order a burger, fries, and a triple-thick milk shake and have a little change left over . Things are much different today (it would be like your parents giving you \$7-\$8 and your purchasing your food at Culver’s, Freddy’s, or Chick-fil-A), but our anticipation and hope peaked on Sunday evenings.

Look at Psalm 33:20-22.

We wait in **hope** for the LORD;
he is our help and our shield.
In him our hearts rejoice,
for we trust in his holy name.
May your unfailing love be with us, LORD,
even as we put our **hope** in you.

What do these verses teach us?

- As God’s children, we can wait in **hope** because we trust Him fully. He is trustworthy.
- As we face challenges and uncertainty (things we may not understand), He is our help. We need to look to Him.
- Our joy is found in Jesus alone.
- We can pray for God’s unfailing love to rest upon us.
- Because our **hope** is in God alone, we are confident that He will never leave or forsake us (Hebrews 13:5).



Activity: Take time to share how you and your family are experiencing God's hope in your lives during this time. How are you sharing that hope with those around you? Let's join in praying and being hopeful that the news of the Gospel will reach throughout the world during this time.



Prayer:

Jesus, thank You for Your love that never fails and the incredible hope we have in You alone.

DAILY DEVOTIONAL



March 25, 2020 (Only 9 months until Christmas!) – Mr. Burgess



Read: Luke 7:1-10

Key Verse: Hebrews 11:1

Topic: Hope (Week 2 Theme)

The servant of a centurion (a commander of 100 Roman soldiers) was sick and about to die! What did this centurion do when he realized his servant was in immediate danger? **He reached out to Jesus** through his friends. That was a great decision! He had faith that Jesus could heal his servant. In fact, his message to Jesus was, “Don’t even bother coming to my house!” He believed that Jesus could heal him remotely, from a distance! “Just say the word, and my servant will be healed!” Jesus was amazed at the faith of his centurion! Then Jesus healed the servant who obviously did not die!

The words hope and faith are very closely related. The only HOPE that the centurion had was that Jesus would heal his servant. No one else could heal him! The centurion’s FAITH in Jesus was strong.

“Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see” (Hebrews 11:1). HOPE is being talked about in the first verse of the FAITH chapter! Hope in the Bible is a confidence, a certainty in the future because of Jesus. The centurion put his HOPE and FAITH in Jesus Christ.

In the midst of all the problems the world is facing today and all the personal concerns we are feeling today, Jesus is saying, “Put your hope and faith in me. I am King of Kings and the Lord of Lords. I am sitting on my throne today! I am in control! I have your back. Trust me! I love you, and I will take care of you.”



Activity:

Do you have any worries or concerns today? Are there some things that you are anxious about? What did the centurion do with his concern when he was in a crisis? He went right to Jesus! Make a list, write down the things that you are worried about today. Then pray to Jesus and read your list to Him. Tell Him you are anxious about these things, but that you are giving Him your list. You are going to let Jesus take care of that list so that you don’t need to worry about it! Kids, give your parents an assignment! Ask them to do this, too!



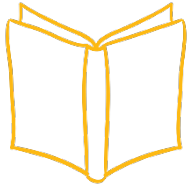
Prayer:

Pray the prayer of David today: “Show me your ways, O Lord, teach me your paths; guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior, and **my hope is in you all day long**” (Psalm 25:4-5).

DAILY DEVOTIONAL



March 26, 2020 – Mr. Brooke
Friday's Devotional will be a video!



Read: Isaiah 40:31; Jeremiah 29:11

Theme: Hope

Have you ever done a trust fall?

A trust fall is a simple “game” in which one person faces a direction and closes his/her eyes. Another person (a trusted person) stands behind them and says, “Fall backward, and I will catch you.” This is a very easy game to think about but more challenging when your eyes are closed; you start to lean back, and you start to fall.

The game can include a lot of laughter, joy, fear, and uncertainty. The one thing that allows for success is trust in the person behind you. While this is a fun “game,” it has great lessons for our faith. We place our hope in so many different things, but the one thing that we can truly trust is our Savior, Jesus Christ. The One we are trusting changes everything about how we approach each day. The One we are trusting is the One we put our hope in.

The incredible thing about our God is that He does not simply catch us when we fall. He does far more. God catches us, fills us with His strength and then provides remarkable plans for our life. We do not simply hope that we are caught, carried, and saved; we can be confident that the God of the universe will also use us in His grand story to love and encourage others.

- First: God catches us and fills us with unimaginable strength.

Isaiah 40:31
but those who hope in the LORD
will renew their strength.
They will soar on wings like eagles;
they will run and not grow weary,
they will walk and not be faint.

- Second: We can place our hope in a God who does not only catch us, but One who has brilliant plans for us as we walk with Him through life.

Jeremiah 29:11
“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.”

Today, be encouraged as you get to fall into (place your hope in) the perfect, loving, gracious, and trustworthy King of the universe. And always remember, God will not just catch us for survival, but will use us in his remarkable plans in the future. You have a unique purpose, designed by God Himself. I can only imagine how God will use our school when our hope is securely placed in Him.



Activity:

Pick someone strong and trustworthy and simply practice a trust fall. In the moment you tip backwards, be grateful that our hope is in Christ, who will catch us, use us, grow us, and love us.



Prayer:

We love You Lord and we ask that You use today to fill us with strength and hope.

DAILY DEVOTIONAL



March 27, 2020 – Mr. Burgess

Video Devotional: <https://vimeo.com/401070792/0ae730d11e>