

Life Group Discussion Guide - May 26th 2019
The Virtue Of Hope

* In the sermon this Sunday, Dave talked about the difference between faith & hope. Today in our group we will further the discussion on the virtue of hope & why it is so vitally important to possess on this side of eternity.

* The word “**hope**” in the Greek: is = *elpizó (el-pid’-zo)*

Meaning: A joyful and confident expectation, mainly eternal salvation.

"Actively waiting” for God's fulfillment about the faith He has in-birthed through the power of His love

Q? What is the difference between **hoping** & **wishing**? **Discuss:** _____

Read aloud: 1 Corinthians 13:13 *Three things will last forever—faith, hope, and love—and the greatest of these is love.*

Q? We see in this verse that faith & hope are distinct from each other. How would you describe the difference between the two? **Discuss** _____

Read aloud: Hebrews 11:1 *Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.*

Q? In this verse we see that faith & hope though different are tied very closely together. How do you recognize this relationship between the two? **Discuss:** _____

Read aloud: Romans 15:4 *For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.*

Q? What stands out to you in this verse regarding the way in which hope is established & operates in our lives? **Discuss:** _____

Read the following aloud in your group to help better understand the complimentary connection between faith & hope.

* Faith is rooted in the reality of the past; hope is anticipating the reality of the future. Without faith, there is no hope, and without hope there is no true faith.
* Faith is confidence in God, his word & his track record of faithfulness. Hope is an expectation that what God has spoken will one day come to pass.

Q? How would you further expound on these ideas? Can you give an example of how faith & hope have worked similarly in your own life? **Discuss:** _____

Read aloud: Hebrews 6:19-20 *We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain, 20where our forerunner, Jesus, has entered on our behalf. He has become a high priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek.*

Q? What does an anchor do? _____

* The soul can be defined as our mind, will & emotions (thinking, choosing, feeling)

Q? How does hope act as the **anchor** of our **soul**? How then does hopelessness effect the soul? **Discuss:** _____

Read the following scriptures aloud:

Psalm 16:8 *I have set the LORD always before me: because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.*

Job 11:18 *And you will feel secure, because there is hope; you will look around and take your rest in security.*

Psalm 42:5 *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*

Q? What stands out to you in one or more of these verses? **Discuss...**

Q? What might be the cause of a christian experiencing prolonged or chronic hopelessness? How do we get our hope back? **Discuss:**

Close your group by praying as you feel the Holy Spirit leading.