

Church Directory Pictures

Get Your Picture taken today at break or right after church.



Pick up your Advent season devotional booklet today. You can also pick up one for a friend or family member as long as they last.

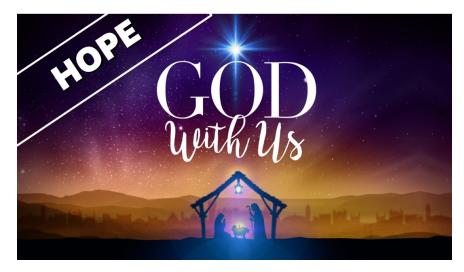


CHRISTMAN
SWEATER SUNDAY
DECEMBER 15

8







Hope is a four-letter word.

- ◆ This is the story of lost hope and the power of God to do what we cannot do. Naomi lost her husband and her three sons. She is stranded in a foreign country and headed home. She speaks to her three daughters-in-law.
- Ruth 1.12-13 Turn back, my daughters; go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. IF I SHOULD SAY I HAVE _______, even if I should have a husband this night and should bear sons, would you therefore wait till they were grown? Would you therefore refrain from marrying? No, my daughters, for it is exceedingly bitter to me for your sake that the hand of the LORD has gone out against me."

,	Naomi sees with her	eyes and not her
	eyes.	

♦	Naomi limits her hope to		_ she knows
	instead of	she knows.	

•	Naomi has	$_{ extstyle }$ and wants everyone to
	just give up and face reality.	

1

<u>Hope is a long journey.</u>

•	Eve and Adam	Sin.		
•	God	Abraham and started th	e long	road of
	hope, which is the	Old Testament story fille	d with	
	glimpses of HOPE.			
•	God told Abraham	<u> </u>		on earth
	will be blessed thr	ough you," Genesis 12:3	3.	
•	God told Jacob at	Bethel, "I		
	leave you until I ha	we done what I have pro	mised	
	you" (Genesis 28:1	5).		



HOW LONG does it take? The patriarchs, The Judges, The

Kings, The Prophets, Captivity and 400 years of silence.

Hope comes in God's promises

•	Two wicked kings were preparing to attack Judah. God
	sent Isaiah, the prophet, to King Ahaz to tell him the
	enemy would not win against him.

•	Then the LORD spoke again to Ahaz, saying, "Ask a
	for yourself from the LORD your God; make
	it deep as Sheol or high as heaven." Isaiah 7.10-11

- But Ahaz said, "I will ______ ask, nor will I test the LORD!" Isaiah 7.12
- "Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, a _____ will be with child and bear a son, and she will call His name ______. Isaiah 7.14



DIGGING DEEPER

This week we are looking at HOPE and the believer. Hope is tied to the promises of God. Hope is about the future, both short-term and long-term. As you dig deeper this week may your hope in Him be strengthened and your faith grow daily.

<u>Monday</u>: 2 Peter 1.2-4 Here is a promise of God. Why was it given? What does it say God will provide for the believer?

<u>Tuesday</u>: 2 Corinthians f1.18-20 What do we learn about Jesus and the promises of God? How does this change how the believer approaches the world and their faith?

<u>Wednesday</u>: Romans 15.7-9 Why did Jesus take on human flesh? How are the "promises given to the fathers," important to our understanding of God's planning and commitment?

Thursday: Galatians 3.21-22 How would the law of Moses and the Promise of God seem to be in conflict with each other? What is the purpose of the law? (see also Romans 3.20 for the purpose of the law.) What are the purpose of he promises of God? (see also Philippians 3.14 to understand the purpose of the promises of God.)

<u>Friday</u>: Revelation 2.7; 3.5; 21.7 Who are these promises given to? What are they promised? What is the key to their receiving the promises of God? What does this mean to you in your daily life?

<u>BONUS</u>: Matthew 11.28-30 Here is one of the most powerful promises Jesus makes to believers. How does knowing this promise prepare us to face the tough times? What should the believer be doing to make this promise part of their life? How does this promise work? What would stop it from working?

<u>Hope is allowing God to do miracles.</u>

- Naomi and Ruth return home. Ruth meets Boaz and he _____ her. They marry and have a child named Obed.
- Then the women said to Naomi, "Blessed is the LORD who has not left you without a ______ today, and may his name become famous in Israel." Ruth 4.14
- Obed is the father of Jesse. Jesse is the father of
- Ruth is listed in the lineage of ______, the Son of God.
- Even when your hope is ______, God is still at work, providing for those who believe in Him through His Son.



Hope is not limited by time.

But there will be no r	more gloom for her who was in
anguish; in earlier tin	nes He treated the land of Zebulun
and the land of Naph	itali with contempt, but later on He
shall make it glorious	s, by the way of the sea, on the other
side of Jordan, Galile	e of the Gentiles. The people who
walk in	_ Will see a great ;
Those who live in a _	land, The
will shine on them. Is	aiah 9.1-2
Here Zebulun and Na	aphtali ^ are being told about how
bad it will get in thei	r coming defeat by Assyria.
Then, they are given	a promise that will not be fulfilled for
over	until after the arrival of
Jesus.	

Hope always includes Jesus.

•	Then comes the news of what God is planning to do and
	how He will do it.
•	For a will be born to us, a
	will be given to us; And the government will rest on His
	shoulders; And His name will be called Wonderful
	Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.
	There will be no end to the increase of His government of
	of peace, On the throne of and over his
	, To establish it and to uphold it with
	justice and righteousness From then on and forevermore.
	The zeal of the LORD of hosts will accomplish this.
	Isaiah 9.6-7

<u>Hope based on God's Word</u>

of God

Hone is based on the

can heal me.

forgiveness...

•	riope is based on the or add.	
•	There are 3573 in the Bible.	
•	The word promise appears around times in the	
	Bible.	
•	Genesis 3:15, "And I put enmity between	
	you and the woman, and between your seed and her	
	Seed; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His	;
	heel." This was fulfilled in Galatians 4:4; Luke 2:7;	
	Revelation 12.5.	
•	"To him who overcomes I give to eat from	l
	the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of	
	God" (Revelation 2:7).	
	Hope based on God's Character	
	iiope based on dod s Character	
	Made E OF OA talle the star of a case of he Post of	
•	Mark 5.25-34 tells the story of a woman who lived twelv	⁄e
	years with a bleeding disease. Her condition had gone	
	from bad to worse. She used all her money on doctors,	
	but they were unable to heal her. This was a long-term	
	condition that had taken over her life.	
•	She hears about Jesus and comes up with a plan.	
	can just get close enough to His clothes, I	'II



Hope based on God's Faithfulness

- Mark 9.14-24 tells the story of a demon-possessed boy whose father comes to the disciples for help, but they are unable to help the boy.
- In the back-and-forth, the boy's father makes a remarkable statement: "But if You can do ______, take pity on us and help us!"
- Jesus responds, 'If You can?' All things are possible to him who
- God is ______, through whom you were called into fellowship with His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. 1

 Corinthians 1.9

be healed, she thought. If this Jesus is who He says is, He

Here is the character of God. He _____ to those

She _____ Him and plans to slip away, but...

who come to Him for healing, help, strength, guidance,