



Hope: Hope

December 5th & 6th

Speaker: Pastor Joel Schmidgall

Scripture: 1 Peter 1, Jeremiah 29:11, Psalm 130

Series Overview

Hope came to us in the form of a child around 2000 years ago. This child grew into a man that would become the Anchor that we place our hope in. By overcoming the world, He gifted us with a divine Spirit that would guide us into the revelation of what hope is.

Series Discussion Questions

How did you share hope this week?

Message Overview

Hope had and has been at the core of Jewish faith for its entirety of existence: hoping for freedom from slavery, hoping for justice, hoping for peace, hoping for a savior. When Christ came, heaven touched earth in a new and profound way. God's glory was being shown, not by splitting a sea, with a pillar of fire, or by the glowing face of Moses. God's glory was embodied in the small and breakable form of the human life of Jesus. Jesus is our hope. He is THE hope.

When the shepherds found Christ, they couldn't help but to proclaim hope to the world around them. The Magi's natural reaction was to celebrate hope in the presence of Christ. And all who came across Jesus' path were confronted with a revelation of hope. During this series, we want to light a candle to the profound gift of hope that we find in Christ.

Message-Specific Discussion Questions

Describe your viewpoint on hope?

What or who you have falsely put your hope in before. How did that situation turn out?
In what ways is Hope in Christ different?

Pastor Joel states: “The object of a wish is chance. The object of hope is God.” **Many of us refer to hope in the same context that we refer to a wish. How would you describe the difference between wishing for something and hoping for something?**

John 16:33 states: “In this world you will have trouble, but take heart. I have overcome the world.” **How are you placing your hope in Jesus?**

Pastor Joel says that proclaiming hope reveals your purpose? **How are you going to proclaim hope this week?**

Practical Application

- Take some time this week to list out some things that you are hoping for. Examine this list and determine if these things are wishes or hopes.
- This week we begin a four-week series on hope. We'll turn to the voices of NCCers, specifically our artists and our children. Each day we will gather together with our church family, hearing from one another and exploring creative expressions of hope through story, song, Scripture, and more.
- Climb the stairs to the [Upper Zoom](#) each Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday at 7:14am. Join us as we start our days in His presence together, listening intently, and responding in prayer. Register at ncc.re/UpperZoom.