

## Being Made Alive *from the desk of Pastor John*

When a person comes to faith in Jesus Christ, they become an entirely new creature. **2 Corinthians 5:17** says, “Therefore if anyone is in Christ, *he is* a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.” When the grace of God invades your life, it changes everything. In **Ephesians 2:1-7**, Paul describes the extreme difference between your life before the grace of God and your life after.

Your condition before the grace of God came over you can be described in one word—dead! **Ephesians 2:1, And you were dead in your trespasses and sins.**

Though your heart was pumping blood through your veins, your lungs were processing oxygen, and you had active brain waves, you were dead—spiritually dead. The cause of your spiritual death was **your trespasses and sins (Romans 5:12)** and you will

remain spiritually dead until God acts on your behalf.

The physically dead are separated from the living, cannot communicate with the living, and cannot respond to stimuli. A dead body is incapable of acting on its own behalf. You can keep the ashes of your dead loved one, have their head cryogenically frozen, have them taxidermized or mummified and placed in a glass box in your living room—but they are still

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*Your condition before the grace of God came over you can be described in one word—dead!*

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dead. You can speak to your dearly departed if it makes you feel better, but they cannot hear you and they cannot talk back to you. There remains a separation that cannot be bridged.

In the same way, the spiritually dead are incapable of acting on their own behalf. The spiritually dead are separated from the living God and incapable of communicating with Him. **Isaiah 59:2**, “But your iniquities have made a

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separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden *His* face from you so that He does not hear.” The spiritually dead do not respond to stimuli. **1 Corinthians 2:14**, “But a natural man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually appraised.” (See also 1 Cor. 1:18, 21, 23.) The spiritually dead have no power to act on their own behalf; they cannot bring themselves to life.

## Being Made Alive *continued from pg. 1*

**Ephesians 2:2-3** reveals the characteristics of the spiritually dead. They are unwittingly following the direction of the Devil; **indulging the desires of the flesh and of the mind**, revealing that they are the children of wrath. They are dead but they do not even know it. They are spiritual zombies.

If you do not know Jesus Christ as Lord, you need to understand your current condition. You are spiritually dead. That condition may feel natural to you, but actually condemns you. Your condition can only be changed if you call upon Christ by faith and seek His forgiveness and ask Him to save your soul and seek His grace. **Ephesians 2:4-6, But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus.** The grace of God changes everything!

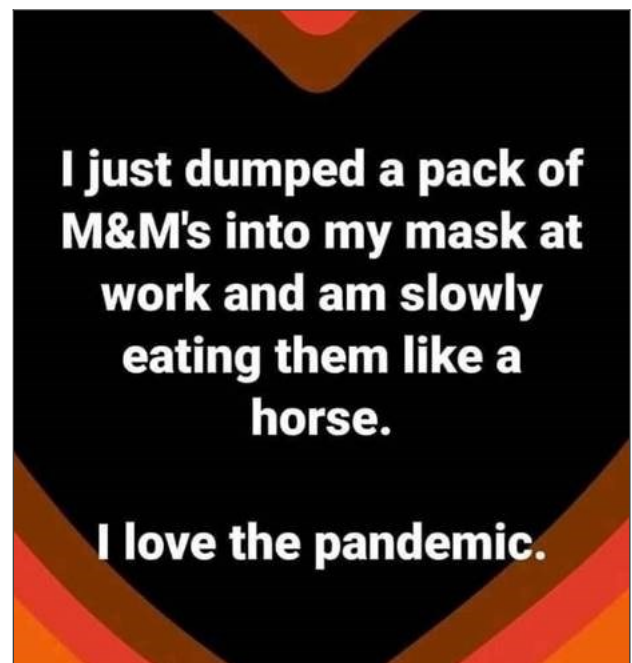
The only way a dead person can be made alive is for God, the One who has life in Himself (John 5:26), to make them alive. In the same way that God raised Jesus from the dead physically, He raises the believer

spiritually. **Romans 8:10**, “If Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, yet the spirit is alive because of righteousness.” **Colossians 2:13-14**, “When you were dead in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions, having canceled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us, which was hostile to us; and He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.”

Obviously, we are not physically sitting with Christ on the throne at this moment. But God’s promise is so certain that it can be spoken of as having already taken place. Our salvation is so certain that God can say that we are sitting with Christ on His throne sharing in His eternal glory. Though a positional truth now, it will become a physical truth when Christ returns.

Before God’s grace is poured out on you, you are spiritually dead. When you are dead, you have no relationship with God. But, when God opens your eyes to your sin, and you confess your sin and seek His forgiveness through the shed blood of Jesus Christ, you will be made alive!

## Just for Laughs



# Family News



## A sweet baby boy

*Jesse Jeremiah  
Skeith*

September 15 at 8:00pm

7 pounds 11 ounces  
and 18.5 inches

Welcome precious baby!

Congratulations to **Kimberly and Jonathan Skeith** on the birth of their ninth child, Jesse Jeremiah Skeith! This sweet boy is a brother to Naomi, Noah, Elle, Addie, Ezra, Titus, Zephaniah, and John.



**INTRODUCING**

*Tucker Girrard Sundvall*

Congratulations to **Quinn and Luke Sundvall** on the birth of Tucker Girrard Sundvall. This precious baby boy was born on September 20 at 9:07am and was a healthy 8 pounds 13 ounces and 21 inches long!

This is the second child for the Sundvalls and a baby brother to 22-month-old Skyler. Congratulations also to grandma and grandpa, Bill and Joanne Thomas.

*So very  
blessed*



**Carrie and Gerry Hansen** welcomed a daughter, Rose Heise Hansen, into their family on July 26, 2020. Rose was 6 pounds 14 ounces and 21 inches long. She is the fifth child for Carrie and Gerry and a baby sister to Grace, Hudson, Elliot, and James. Mom and Dad are grateful that Rose is healthy and growing! Congratulations, Carrie and Gerry!

For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb.

<sup>14</sup> I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.

Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well.

<sup>15</sup> My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret,  
intricately woven in the depths of the earth

<sup>16</sup> Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them,  
the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them.

Psalm 139:13-16



# A Curious Story of the Church, Part 1

by Derek Iverson

In late 1969, David Watters, a linguistics scholar from the States, undertook an investigative trek through a portion of Western Nepal, SW of the Dhaulagiri mountain range, to locate the Kham tribal peoples and find the city with the purest form of Kamkura (the Nepali name for the Kham language). Later he would move his family (wife Nancy and two young sons) to this city to learn their language, translate portions of the Bible into the language, and start a local Kham church. In all this God was the orchestrator and Watters was the instrument. He did find the key city, named Taka-Shera, and the key man to help in language learning and translation. This man, Hasta Ram Budha, was an ex-Ghurka soldier for Britain who knew some English and some Nepali as well as his native tongue of Kham. But oh, what a trip lay before Watters and his family before his 16-year effort was birthed!

Watters was encouraged by the way God led him to Taka-Shera and Hasta Ram. In considering whether to assist Watters, Hasta had one key question, “Do you know anything about Jesus Christ?” Hasta had received a Nepali tract some years before and was intrigued about Jesus, but didn’t really understand what was being said in this tract. So Hasta had a proposition: “I’ll go with you and teach you my language if you teach me everything you know about this man (Jesus).” Watters agreed.

The Kham people lived in very mountainous terrain in villages with rock houses stacked one against another on hillsides where they farmed potatoes, wheat and maize, and raised sheep, goats and buffalo. Their living conditions were very rustic and their speech often very coarse. They lived in terror of the activity of shamanistic mediums and were bound by fearful religious traditions. But there was also light in this

darkness—they had a yearly religious ceremony much like the scapegoat ceremony of Leviticus where they symbolically bound all evil on the head of a ram as he was led through their town. Then the ram was taken outside the town and sacrificed.

A few years after the start of his work in Taka-Shera, Watters called for a meeting of city elders to discuss literacy. Rather than enthusiastic embrace of his work, he was challenged skeptically by a key town elder, Bahadur. “Sahib, if we learn how to read, will we ever be white?...No, we’ll always be black because our hearts are black.” Bahadur wasn’t talking about skin color—he was talking behavior, which he saw as coming from the heart. In the past, attempts to educate their young men only resulted in worthless, arrogant graduates who at best became better hooligans and thorns in the side of the community. So, Watters came

to understand that they weren’t excited about literacy in itself, unless they were given something that was worth reading, something that would enlarge hearts. And that was Watters’ goal as well.

In 1970, Watters and Hasta Ram were in Kathmandu where they fellowshipped with a local church (there were probably only 300 believers in all Nepal at this time

out of a population of 13 million). Hasta sensed the difference in Christian worship versus his past experiences. During this time he was given the task of reading the Nepali Bible. One day Hasta came to Watters and said that he had read a lot about people of the OT suffering as a result of rejecting God and following false gods. “So, I’ve made up my mind—I’ve decided to give up the old village god and follow in the way of Jesus...My friends say I will die. What do you think?” Watters spoke truthfully that following Christ would possibly entail rejection and suffering, but the village god was powerless before the one true God. Hasta chose to follow Jesus.

*Next month, read about the birth of the Kham church and the persecution that followed.*

*“I’ll go with you and teach you my language if you teach me everything you know about this man (Jesus).”*

## VBS 2020 Recap

from the desk of Pastor Paul

This year's VBS looked a little different, but it was still a blast! We were all able to enjoy a fun afternoon together. The campus was decorated to look like a construction site to match our theme "Under Construction." Kids rotated through five different stations all revolving around the theme and the key verse, Philippians

1:6 ("And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ."). We sang songs together, played games at the Job Site, learned about Philippians 1:6 at the Foreman's Office, made crafts at the Workshop, learned about our missionaries at the Loading Dock, and enjoyed a snack at the Food Truck.

The lesson from Philippians 1:6 focused on two questions: who is the Architect and what are His plans? God is the ultimate Architect. He is the One who has designed all things perfectly, including His plan of salvation. We are to submit to His plans by repenting and trusting in Christ and living a holy life according to His Word. There is abounding hope found in the gospel. We can rejoice even more as we see that God is the One who saves; He began a good work in us and He will bring it to completion. God's people are all under construction as we are conformed more into the image of Jesus (Rom. 8:29, 2 Cor. 3:18). We are called to trust in the Lord and obey His commands, while also finding comfort knowing that He is the one perfectly working in those who trust in Christ. God will complete His work in us one day when we are with our Lord. That is an amazing guarantee! We serve a mighty God who is abounding in mercy and grace.

Thank you to all who served with VBS! It was a great encouragement to see the church come together and labor side-by-side to love others in word and deed.



See more  
VBS photos  
on page 6

Our wonderful youth construction crew leads the VBS kids in song at the Job Site.



# VBS 2020 Recap *continued from pg. 5*



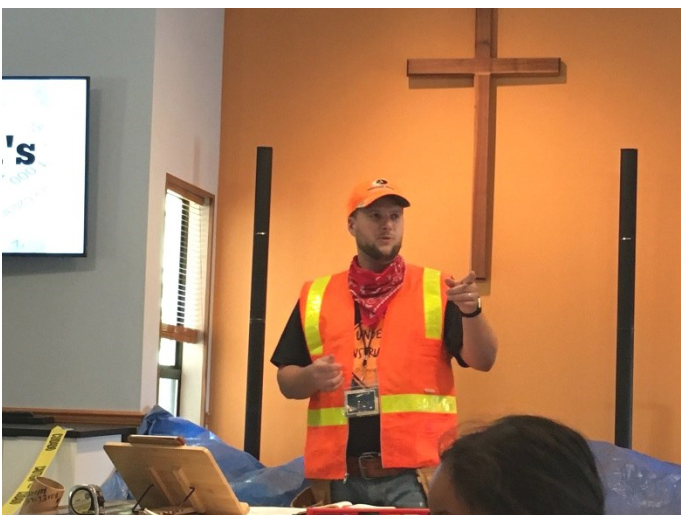
Top left: The kids making a craft in the Workshop.

Above: Ella Martinez (right) helping Maddie Yoder make her snack in the Food Truck.

Left: The Loading Dock where Aubrey Trzeciak (right) watches Maddie Yoder make a card to send to one of our missionaries.

Below: Game time at the Job Site

Bottom left: Pastor Paul teaching the kids about Philippians 1:6 in the Foreman's Office.



# Live for What Matters

## from the desk of Pastor Samuel

If you remember from last month, we looked at 2 Corinthians 5 to understand what matters most and how it ought to affect our lives. Because of our faith in Christ, His love now directs all that we do and say. Our mindset moves from selfish desires to selfless love for others. Our message becomes about Christ and all He has done, not our personal quests for importance. We are no longer ambassadors for our own sake, but for the sake of Jesus Christ.

But Paul is not done explaining how the message of salvation impacts our lives. Opening up into chapter 6, he moves into more specific ways that our lives should express the saving power of Christ in us.

First, Paul issues an impassioned warning to the Corinthians: “Working together with him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. For he says, ‘In a favorable time I listened to you, and in a day of salvation I have helped you.’ Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation” (vv. 1–2). We were given the ministry of reconciliation at the time of our salvation. We have been saved in order to work towards the salvation of others. In these verses, Paul explains that to neglect the ministry we’ve been given is to receive the grace of God in vain!

Having made sure his readers are paying attention, Paul uses his own life and ministry as an example of how to live for what matters. Paul certainly became well experienced in all kinds of circumstances as he proclaimed the gospel around the known world. Here are four categories where his life was a faithful example of the Christian life:

*He explained the gospel message unhindered:* “We put no obstacle in anyone’s way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry” (v. 3). Paul kept his gospel message free of any additional, legalistic commands. He didn’t use the gospel as a way to promote another agenda. He simply preached

repentance of sins and faith in Christ.

*He endured all things for Christ’s sake:* “But as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger...” (vv. 4–5). Paul understood the cost of following Jesus, and he let nothing hold him back from faithfully proclaiming the gospel.

*He exhibited Christ’s character:* “...by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love; by truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left...” (vv. 6–7). By the power of the Holy Spirit, Paul expressed the fruit

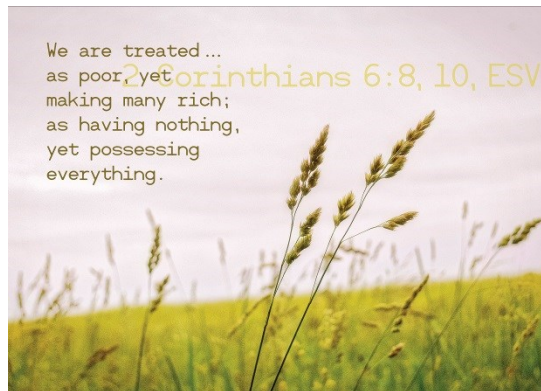
of the Spirit and the bold power of God as he declared the truth of Scripture.

Finally, he *experienced all manner of circumstances well:* “... through honor and dishonor, through slander and praise. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet

well known; as dying, and behold, we live; as punished, and yet not killed’ as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing everything” (vv. 8–10). Paul was willing to suffer “this light, momentary affliction” in order to gain the “eternal weight of glory” found in Christ (2 Cor. 4:17). Trusting God’s promises of what is in store for those who trust in Christ, Paul was willing to count even his hardships as joys (see James 1:2–4).

We have been given the ability and the opportunity to proclaim the greatest message ever heard by our words and our actions. By the Spirit’s power, we too can exhibit Christlike character in any situation so that we can make the gospel clearly known. We can follow Paul’s example, just as Paul was following Christ’s example.

“Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation.” Let’s live like it!





# Fall Church Work Day

**Saturday, October 10**  
**9:00am to 1:00pm**

Help us tidy up the garden beds and church grounds. Please bring a small trowel and a kneeling pad.

Please sign up in the foyer or RSVP through your Realm account (Events)

Questions? Please contact Cheryl Boston at 253-653-3541 or crboston12@gmail.com

# LAMENT: THE BEAUTY IN THE DARKNESS

*A night of worship*

Friday, October 16, 2020

6:30pm

Eastridge Baptist Church

*Join us for this beautiful evening of worship through song*

## October Birthdays & Anniversaries



Emmaline Elliott 10/1

Anette Busick 10/2

Kent Barher 10/3

Kari Watson 10/3

Emileo Guevara 10/3

Samuel Kerr 10/3

Charlene Salisbury 10/4

Cambria Carlton 10/5

Phil Splinter 10/6

Ethan Williams 10/6

Jane Blakey 10/6

Kimberly Skeith 10/7

Eleanor Blake 10/9

Greg Goheen 10/13

Crystal Martinez 10/15

Rob Umbeck 10/15

Aldon Lopez 10/17

Tonya Cole 10/17

Dean Hazelton 10/17

Jeff Anderson 10/17

Heather Young 10/17

Linda Majer 10/18

Rob Guthrie 10/18

Landis Pogue 10/18

Kruz Meeuwse 10/19

Tim Aitkins 10/20

Max Carlton 10/20

Hal Busick 10/20

KayLee Groot 10/21

Dale Coppess 10/23

Pete Emme 10/24

James Hansen 10/25

Cindy Wentworth 10/26

Emily Swenson 10/26

Peggy Sherman 10/26

Kenny Kerr 10/26

Daniel Trzeciak 10/27

Oliver Tibbetts 10/27

Lilly Kerr 10/27

Bill Mickelson 10/29

Jeannie Osterman 10/31

Teresa Saenger 10/31

Leverne Terrance 10/31

### Anniversaries

Rob and Heidi Guthrie 10/2

Paul and Debbie Cederwall  
10/4

Dean and Dorie Peyton 10/6

Jeff and Shay Anderson  
10/12

Rick and Nancy Hawkins  
10/15

Eric and Kim Rasmussen  
10/17

Mark and Dawna Yarnold  
10/20

Greg and Victoria Turner  
10/21

Rob and Maricel Umbeck  
10/27



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				<b>1</b> 10:00–11:30am Ladies' Bible Study 7:00pm College/ Career Bible Study 7:00pm Worship Team Practice	<b>2</b> 8:00am Men's Bible Study	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b> 8:30am & 10:30am Worship Services 8:30–9:45am Children's Church 10:30 Adult Sunday School <b>6:00pm Prayer            Meeting</b>	<b>5</b> 2:00–3:00pm Ladies' Bible Study 6:30–8:00pm Ladies' Bible Study	<b>6</b> 5:00pm–8:30pm Taekwondo 7:00pm Young Marrieds' Bible Study 7:00pm Ladies' Bible Study	<b>7</b> 6:30–8:00pm Adventure Club 6:30–7:30pm Adult Bible Study 6:30pm Youth Group	<b>8</b> 10:00–11:30am Ladies' Bible Study 7:00pm College/ Career Bible Study 7:00pm Worship Team Practice	<b>9</b> 8:00am Men's Bible Study	<b>10</b> <b>9:00am–            1:00pm Church            Workday</b>
<b>11</b> 8:30am & 10:30am Worship Services 8:30–9:45am Children's Church 10:30 Adult Sunday School	<b>12</b> 2:00–3:00pm Ladies' Bible Study 6:30–8:00pm Ladies' Bible Study	<b>13</b> 10:30am Missions Prayer Meeting 5:00–8:30pm Taekwondo 6:30pm Elder Mtg 7:00pm Young Marrieds' Study 7:00pm Ladies' Bible Study 7:00–8:30pm Ladies' Bible Study	<b>14</b> 6:30–8:00pm Adventure Club 6:30–7:30pm Adult Bible Study 6:30pm Youth Group	<b>15</b> 10:00–11:30am Ladies' Bible Study 7:00pm College/ Career Bible Study 7:00pm Worship Team Practice	<b>16</b> 8:00am Men's Bible Study <b>6:30pm Night            of Worship @            EBC</b>	<b>17</b> 5:00–8:00pm Marriage Matters
<b>18</b> 8:30am & 10:30am Worship Services 8:30–9:45am Children's Church 10:30 Adult Sunday School	<b>19</b> 2:00–3:00pm Ladies' Bible Study 6:30–8:00pm Ladies' Bible Study	<b>20</b> 5:00–8:30pm Taekwondo 7:00pm Young Marrieds' Bible Study 7:00–8:30pm Ladies' Bible Study	<b>21</b> 6:30–8:00pm Adventure Club 6:30–7:30pm Adult Bible Study 6:30pm Youth Group	<b>22</b> 10:00–11:30am Ladies' Bible Study 7:00pm College/ Career Bible Study 7:00pm Worship Team Practice	<b>23</b> 8:00am Men's Bible Study	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> <b>Communion</b> 8:30am & 10:30am Worship Services 8:30–9:45am Children's Church 10:30am Adult Sunday School	<b>26</b> 2:00–3:00pm Ladies' Bible Study 6:30–8:00pm Ladies' Bible Study	<b>27</b> 5:00–8:30pm Taekwondo 7:00pm Young Marrieds' Bible Study 7:00–8:30pm Ladies' Bible Study	<b>28</b> 6:30–8:00pm Adventure Club 6:30–7:30pm Adult Bible Study 6:30pm Youth Group	<b>29</b> 10:00–11:30am Ladies' Bible Study 7:00pm College/ Career Bible Study 7:00pm Worship Team Practice	<b>30</b> 8:00am Men's Bible Study	

Please reserve seats for the Sunday services through your Realm account (events) or our website at [eastridgebaptist.org/registration](http://eastridgebaptist.org/registration)

## November 2020

Sunday, November 1	Monthly Prayer Meeting	6:00pm (Auditorium)
Tuesday, November 10	Missions Prayer Ministry	10:30am @ Alaire Irish's
Saturday, November 21	"Night of Hope" Concert	6:30-8:00pm (Auditorium)
Monday, November 16- Monday, November 23	Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Collection @ EBC	
Thursday, November 26	Thanksgiving Day	

## December 2020

Sunday, December 6	Monthly Prayer Meeting	6:00pm (Auditorium)
Tuesday, December 8	Missions Prayer Ministry	10:30am @ Alaire Irish's
Sunday, December 13	Special Christmas Music	Both services
Thursday, December 24	Christmas Eve Service	6:00pm

## January 2021

Sunday, January 3	Monthly Prayer Meeting	6:00pm (Auditorium)
Tuesday, January 12	Missions Prayer Ministry	10:30am @ Alaire Irish's





# The Necessity of Hope

## from the desk of Pastor Ryan

Hope. A four letter word that inspires great thoughts and motivates significant action. Many authors have said that hope is one of our greatest strengths. After all, it was hope that destroyed the Death Star. And hope is the focus of this month's discussion as we continue our quest to understand the basics of biblical counseling: the fundamentals and the necessary components. We've talked about the goal and the focus of biblical counseling, the necessity of repentance and faith, and of killing sin. This month we will emphasize the necessity of hope.

When talking about hope, we must make a distinction between the world's understanding and the biblical understanding. From a worldly perspective, the word "hope" refers to something desirable that may happen, a beneficial situation or outcome that has a good chance of taking place. It is seen in the child who says, "I hope I get some ice cream after dinner." To understand the biblical perspective, all we need to do is look to Hebrews 11:1, which says, "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen." Biblical hope rests in the things that are sure, the realities in which we have placed our faith. When the Bible speaks of hope, it does not refer to things that might happen, but to things that will happen. It refers to that which is concrete, truths that are based upon the character of God and the person and work of Christ. Our salvation is the greatest truth in which our hope is found because God the Father planned to rescue sinners, God the Son has done all that is necessary to save sinners, and God the Holy Spirit now applies that salvation to sinners who put their faith in Christ (Eph 1:3-14).

There are many other truths and promises in the Scripture where we can place our hope. The Scriptures themselves are a tremendous source of hope for it is

the very Word of God (2 Tim 3:16) that is perfect, sure, and true (Ps 19:7, 9), giving us everything we need for life and godliness (2 Pet 1:3), and it always accomplishes God's purposes (Isa 55:11). Jesus Christ is the One who never changes (Heb 13:8) and has promised always to be with us (Matt 28:20). He is the Good Shepherd who restores our soul, comforts us in our trials, and showers us with goodness and mercy (Ps 23). We also hope in God's grace, for it has been given not only for salvation, but for sanctification (Titus 2:11-12), and God has promised to complete the good work He began in us (Phil 1:6), working out all things for His glory and our good (Rom 8:28-29). God identifies Himself as the God of hope (Rom 15:13), and

Jesus Christ is our hope (1 Tim 1:1). Every page of the Bible confirms God's faithfulness and the reason for our solidified hope.

But why is hope so important in biblical counseling? Well, like we said above, hope provides the motivation for action and change, and the one who hopes in Christ has a new

desire to be like Him (1 John 3:3). This world is full of trouble, and in this life we will struggle with sin, temptation, trials, and tribulation (Heb 12:4; 1 Pet 4:12; John 16:33). So, in order to persevere in godly living we must have hope. And the glorious news of the gospel is that we have a sure hope! First Corinthians 3:18 promises that those who are in Christ are being transformed into His image, and James 1:2-4 declares the fact that God is at work in us in the midst of our struggles and trials to bring about His purposes, to make us perfect and complete. God's plan for us is to live for His glory, and by hoping in Christ and in the promises of His Word we can accomplish this great task as we step out in obedience to Him, trusting that His way is best. Therefore, let's put our hope in God, the One who is our salvation and our God (Ps 42:6).



Complete the maze from the "START" to the "END"



Earn one point for every pumpkin you pass through



EASTRIDGE  
BAPTIST CHURCH