

Praying in Hope

Praying is connecting with God, personally and as a body of worshipers. What is hope?

Where is hope in your praise? Where is hope in your requests? Where is God is your hope?

What do you hope for?

In your everyday life?

In your future?

From God?

For eternity?

Listen to God's Word:

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. Isaiah 40:31

Why, my soul, are you downcast? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God. Psalm 42:5

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. Jeremiah 29:11

But as for me, I watch in hope for the LORD, I wait for God my Savior; my God will hear me. Micah 7:7

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ² through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. ³ Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; ⁴ perseverance, character; and character, hope. ⁵ And hope does not put us to shame (disappoint), because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us. Romans 5:3-5

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Romans 15:13

Simeon and Anna – Luke 2:21-40

Discuss in groups: What does hope in God mean to you? How does it apply to your everyday life?

What is the difference between hope and trust? How does faith relate to hope?

How does hope in God relate to how we live? How does hope in God give us peace now?

What gives us confidence in God that confirms our hope?

How does our hope in God affect our prayers?

How do we use God's word to pray in hope?

Pray in groups: Thank God for the eternal hope he gives us because of Jesus, because he loves us.

Each person offer a personal prayer of hope. (spiritual or tangible)