

HOPE

June 23, 2019 | Pastor Rob Koke

Have you ever felt hopeless? One of the most hopeless stories in the Bible is one about the Israelites. They were enslaved for 4 generations before Moses arrived on the scene and God interceded.

READ | Exodus 2:23

Sometimes, circumstances can seem hopeless, but it's interesting that the children of Israel never lost hope. They were definitely tired and frustrated, but not hopeless. It is an important lesson to find the balance between acceptance and hope when facing a difficult situation. Accepting reality helps you make decisions, but it is important not to lose hope in identifying reality.

REFLECT | Have you ever experienced a hopeless situation? How did reality and hope affect your journey?

READ | Ephesians 2:12-13

In Christ, we have hope. No matter how dark the circumstance, we have hope. Everyone relates to hope in one of three ways.

1. Some people live with no hope.
 - Without hope, people die. Hope is vital to human existence.
2. Many people live with false hope.
 - People who live solely on the power of themselves have put their hope in something that cannot sustain. It's false hope for people to think that their secret sins will stay hidden. Or that they will have no consequence because no one knows about it.
3. There are some who live with true hope.
 - The biblical definition of hope is the certain expectation of future good.

REFLECT | Do you have true hope?

We have great reasons for hope:

- We have His presence to live in - 1 John 3:1
- We have His people to live with - Galatians 6:10
- We have His promises to live on - 2 Peter 1:4
 - The promise of power - Romans 8:31
 - The promise of provision - Philippians 4:19; Romans 8:32
 - The promise of mercy - 1 John 1:9
 - The promise that it will be alright - Romans 8:28
 - The promise of everlasting life - John 3:16

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We can draw great inspiration from Israel. They were in a relationship with the living God and in the midst of a hopeless situation had hope. All your impossible situation needs is a miracle. No matter what you're facing, you can have hope. We can all live with the expectation of future good.

PRAYER | Make time to pray for one another before you dismiss your group.