

# Living Hope

1 Peter 1:3-7

Hymnal 539 (My Hope is Built on Nothing Less)

### Today's Lesson:



1. To understand the living hope that Jesus Christ gave to us.
2. To understand that we can overcome sufferings by truly knowing the living hope.

### Opening My Heart



This is a picture taken during a daycare field trip. Let's have a moment to think about these days. What memories come to your mind? Do you remember what your future goals were back then? Please write them down.

How close are you to those future goals now? Have they moved further away or changed?



## Understanding Today's Lesson

The dictionary definition of hope is to desire something to happen or that which is desired. Because we live in an imperfect world and in an imperfect state, everyone has a desire for certain things that they wish for. When we look at what people in the world hope for, it's often things like wealth, health, love, happiness, or freedom. The problem is that hope is meant to come true, but in most cases they end up just being desired. And even when hopes are fulfilled, they still have the weakness of vanishing at any time. God gave the Jews the land of Canaan as an inheritance, where there is nothing lacking. However, because of their disobedience, even that "inheritance of the land" was trampled on and taken away by the gentiles. There is nothing in this world that lasts forever. David was a king who lacked nothing, yet he came to realize deeply that the things he can see with his eyes could never be true hope.

The hope that the Lord has given to us is a "living hope," different from the hope of the world. Although we cannot see this hope because it is not in the world but in the heavens, it is a living hope that surely will be achieved and fulfilled. Moreover, these are an inheritance that is incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away. In other words, it is a hope for an eternal inheritance. To us, this hope is like an anchor to our soul which keeps us from being shaken or drifted away by the trends of the world. It also enables us to endure any trials and hardships with joy. Hope becomes more evident when one is in the midst of suffering. The more the world trembles, the more we have to live boldly placing our hope in God.

Notes:

## Memorizing Scripture



Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you,

(1 Peter 1:3-4)



## Meditate

# On These Verses

1. After you have meditated on the following verses, give a title of the verse(s) or write a short summary of the verse(s). Also, write down what you felt about the verse(s) or what other verse(s) it/they remind(s) you of.

(Psalm 78:5-8)

(Romans 15:12-13)

(1 John 3:1-3)



## Changing

# Directions

Psalm 39 is a song in which King David reflects on what he realized as he was going through chastening from God for his wrong doings. Please read Psalm 39 and answer the following questions.

1. King David was chastised multiple times for his sin. List the chastisements he mentions in Psalm 39.
  - ① Verse 1: The wicked opposed David
  - ② Verse 2: The ( ) within his heart worsens.
  - ③ Verses 10, 13: He loses ( ) of his flesh and is consumed
  - ④ Verse 11: His ( ) melts away like a moth
2. In the midst of the chastisement, he realized many things. Let's list the things he came to understand.
  - ① Verse 4: Acknowledges his end and understands how ( ) he is.
  - ② Verse 5: Certainly every man at his best state is but ( )
  - ③ Verse 6: Surely every man walks about like a ( ), surely they busy themselves in ( )
  - ④ Verse 6: People heap up ( ) but do not know who will gather them.
  - ⑤ Verse 12: The lives of men on this earth are like that of a stranger or sojourner, fleeting and passing away.
3. After all, where did he put his hope? Please read verse 7 and write down his confession.
4. To him who was in pain and tears due to the chastisement he received as a result of his sin, what role do you think his hope might have played?
5. Write down your current most earnest hope. Is that hope a "living hope"?



Applying

## The Word to My Life

**For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also. (James 2:26)**

1. Please write down how you will apply what you learned today throughout this week.

1)

2)

3)

2. Look back and reflect on how successful you were at applying last week's lesson.



Praying

## To Live According to the Word

Even in the moments of darkness and pain, let us pray that we may rejoice and sing with the hope the Lord has given us. And that in holding tightly to this hope, let us resolve to cleanse ourselves that we may stand before the Lord without blemish.



# Our Story

## The Bride of Christ



God has called me to be a friend, a loving partner, a bride. Let's often check the mirror to see whether I am worthy of being the bride of Christ.

**“For I am jealous for you with godly jealousy. For I have betrothed you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.” (2 Corinthians 11:2)**

## The Two Rabbis



This is the story at the time of Jerusalem's destruction in 70 A.D. Two rabbis were walking through the ruined city of Jerusalem. The terrible sight of the ruined castles and burned down temples stirred the hearts of the two rabbis. But then one rabbi cried while the other laughed. So the crying rabbi asked the rabbi who laughed,

"How come you can laugh when our holy city, Jerusalem, is in ruins?"

"Rather, I want to ask you the reason for your tears, why are you crying?"

"Jerusalem and the temple of God have collapsed so horribly. You can no longer see it again, can you? How do you not weep when you see God's terrible judgment?"

Then the rabbi that was laughing answered.

"I also know how sure and frightening God's judgment is, but this has made me realize again that God is the one who keeps promises. God said he would destroy Jerusalem, and He did. And God also promised that He will rebuild Jerusalem and make it more glorified than before, and I trust those words. That is why I smile at the thought of a beautiful and glorious Jerusalem that will be rebuilt."

