



GOSPEL DAILY DEVOTIONAL

WITH JOSH WEIDMANN

A MINISTRY OF GRACE CHAPEL

For Families

HOPE: OUR INVISIBLE ANCHOR

Start with prayer, then ask...



DISCUSSION QUESTION:

What does it mean to have hope in something? What kind of things do you hope for?



READ TOGETHER: Hebrews 6:1, 10–20



DISCUSSION QUESTION:

According to Hebrews, what is it about God that tells us we can have hope in His promises?



DISCUSSION QUESTION:

How can hope in God's promises help us to endure through hard times?

DIGGING DEEPER

The book of Hebrews was written for Jewish Christians who grew up hearing the stories of the Old Testament, so it uses a lot of stories and laws from the Old Testament to talk about Jesus. In this passage, the writer of Hebrews talks about Abraham, just like in the passage we studied yesterday. Here, he uses the fact that God kept His promises to Abraham to show us that we can have hope in the promises God has made to us.

In the Bible, hope isn't wishful thinking. It's not like, "Oh, I really hope I get that special toy for Christmas!" That kind of hope isn't a guarantee... it is just a wish. We may get what we wish for or we may not.

Hebrews says the biblical kind of hope, the hope we have in Jesus, is secure. It is firm. It is a hope we have in something that has been promised to us. Instead of just wishing you could get that special toy for Christmas, biblical hope is like knowing your parents have already bought the toy online. You know it's coming. You just have to wait for it. That's what the Bible means by hope. It's not just wishful thinking, it's confident expectation.

Hebrews says we can have confidence in God's promises because "it is impossible for God to lie" (Hebrews 6:18). We can trust in God's promises because He is trustworthy. Let's go back to the

example of your parents buying the toy again. What if you didn't actually see them make the order, but they promised you they ordered it. If your parents aren't very reliable, you might not believe them. But if they usually tell the truth, and you know they love you, then you would not even doubt if the toy was on its way to your house, would you?

God is even more trustworthy than the best parents in the world. He doesn't just usually tell the truth; He always tells the truth! It is not even possible for Him to tell a lie! And He loves us even more than even our parents do, which is almost unimaginable. That's why we can have confident hope in His promises—because He cannot lie and He loves us.

Hebrews says our hope is like an anchor to our souls. It keeps our faith firm through every doubt and storm. Like we said yesterday about faith, sometimes, when things get hard, when the storms start to rage all around us, we can start to lose faith. We can start to lose hope too. But remember, Jesus is always there. He is stronger than the storm. We just need to anchor ourselves to Him.

APPLY IT TO LIFE

An anchor is just a pretty small piece of metal (compared to a boat or a ship) tied to a rope attached to the boat that keeps it still and safe. The anchor doesn't really do anything. It has to be hooked into something strong. Think about it. You could throw out your anchor, but if it's just drifting through the water, it won't keep you still and safe. For an anchor to work, it has to attach to a large rock, foundation, or seabed. The anchor isn't that strong; it's the rock that's strong! It's not the anchor that holds the ship steady; it's the rock. The anchor is just clinging onto the rock.

In the same way, it's not our hope that keeps us safe in the storm. It's who we hope in—Jesus, our solid rock. Our hope works because we put our hope in Jesus, who is stronger than the storm, who doesn't lie, and who loves us even more than our parents do! Sometime our hope can feel small and unsteady, but Jesus is always our firm foundation. He is always strong. He is always steady. We just need to cling to Him. Our hope can feel like a small thing, but if it's lodged firmly in the Rock, it can hold us steady through any storm.



PARENT STORY:

Describe a time when you felt like you had lost hope, but Jesus renewed your hope.



FAMILY ACTIVITY:

Gather a paper towel, a cookie sheet, and a water gun. Choose one kid to hold the paper towel against their chest as a "shield" and one to hold the cookie sheet against their chest as a "shield." Have a parent shoot both kids with the water gun. Talk about how putting our hope in things other than Jesus is like hoping that the paper towel will keep you safe from the water gun. But trusting in Jesus is like trusting the cookie sheet to protect us from the water gun. We can put our hope in Christ because He is strong and He loves us.



PRAY TOGETHER:

Dear God, thank you for your promises of spiritual riches in this life and eternal life with you in heaven. Help us to know that we can put our hope in you. In Jesus's name, Amen.



MEMORIZE TOGETHER:

“We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure” – Hebrews 6:19