

What is the

Hope We Have?

1. My Identity is Unshakeable!

26 Then God said, "Let us make human beings in our image, to be like us"... 27 So God created human beings in his own image. In the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

Genesis 1:26-27)

13 You made all the delicate, inner parts of my body and knit me together in my mother's womb. 14 Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! Your workmanship is marvelous how well I know it... (Psalm 139:13-18)

...15 You watched me as I was being formed in utter seclusion, as I was woven together in the dark of the womb. 16 You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in your book...

(Psalm 139:13-18)

... Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed. 17 How precious are your thoughts about me, O God. They cannot be numbered!...

(Psalm 139:13-18)

...18 I can't even count them; they outnumber the grains of sand! And when I wake up, you are still with me!

(Psalm 139:13-18)

You are a chosen people. You are royal priests, a holy nation, God's very own possession. As a result, you can show others the goodness of God, for he called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light. 1 Peter 2:9)



6 When we were utterly helpless, Christ came at just the right time and died for us sinners. 7 Now, most people would not be willing to die for an upright person...

...though someone might perhaps be willing to die for a person who is especially good. 8 But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners...

...9 And since we have been made right in God's sight by the blood of Christ, he will certainly save us from God's condemnation...

...10 For since our friendship with God was restored by the death of his Son while we were still his enemies, we will certainly be saved through the life of his Son....

...11 So now we can rejoice in our wonderful new relationship with God because our Lord Jesus Christ has made us friends of God.

If we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness.

(1 John 1:9)

17 Anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!...

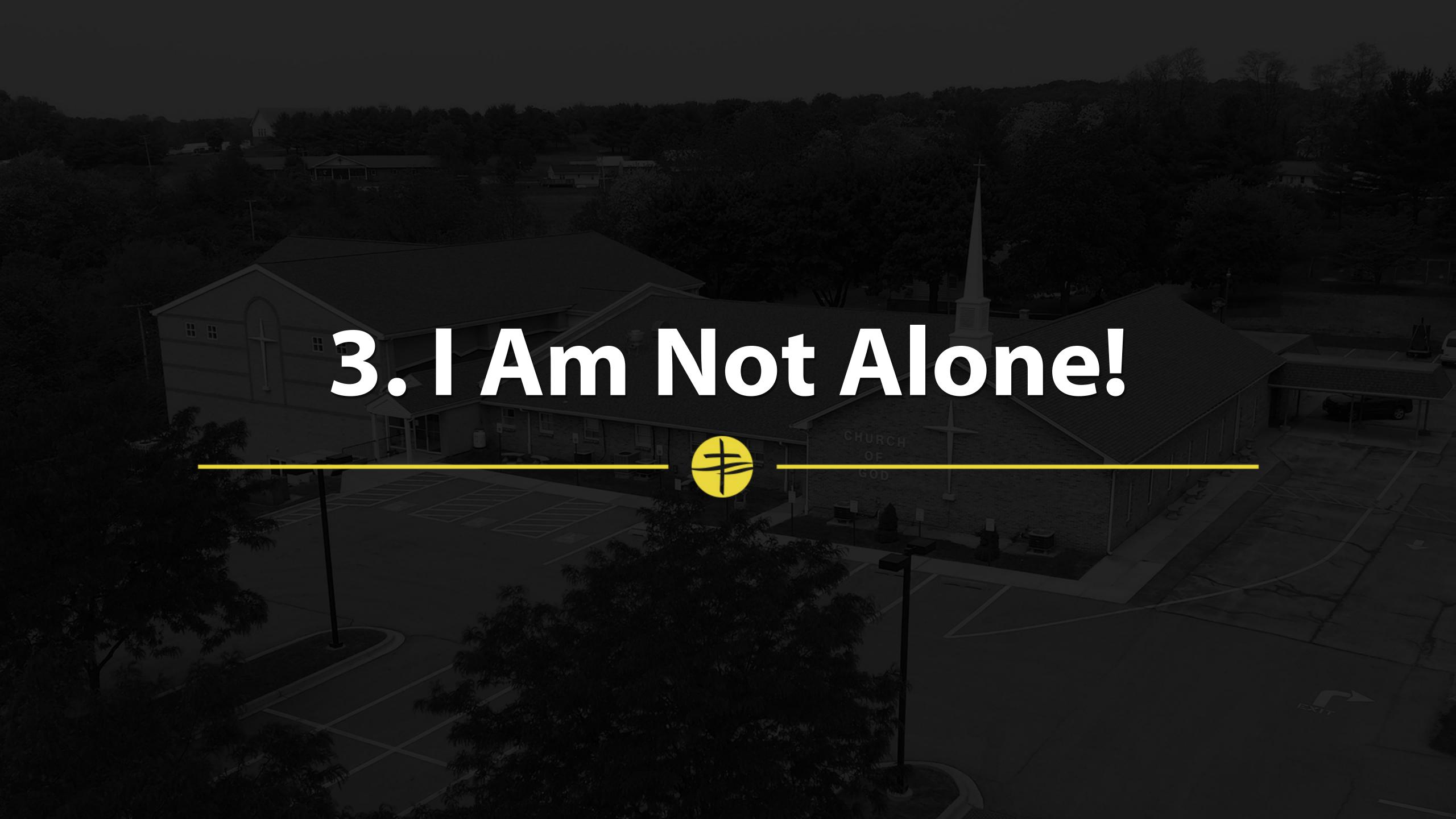
(2 Corinthians 5:17-19)

...18 And all of this is a gift from God, who brought us back to himself through Christ. And God has given us this task of reconciling people to him...

(2 Corinthians 5:17-19)

...19 For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people's sins against them. And he gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation.

(2 Corinthians 5:17-19)



"For where two or three gather together as my followers, I am there among them."

(Matthew 18:20)

Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results.

(James 5:16)



18 Yet what we suffer now is nothing compared to the glory he will reveal to us later. 19 For all creation is waiting eagerly for that future day when God will reveal who his children really are...

(Romans 8:18-25)

...20 Against its will, all creation was subjected to God's curse. But with eager hope, 21 the creation looks forward to the day when it will join God's children in glorious freedom from death and decay...

(Romans 8:18-25)

...22 For we know that all creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. 23 And we believers also groan, even though we have the Holy Spirit within us as a foretaste of future glory... (Romans 8:18-25)

... for we long for our bodies to be released from sin and suffering. We, too, wait with eager hope for the day when God will give us our full rights as his adopted children, including the new bodies he has promised us...

(Romans 8:18-25)

...24 We were given this hope when we were saved. (If we already have something, we don't need to hope for it. 25 But if we look forward to something we don't yet have, we must wait patiently and confidently.) Romans 8:18-25) He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain.

All these things are gone forever.

(Revelation 21:4)

How Do We Deal Hope?



Worship Christ as Lord of your life.

And if someone asks about your hope as a believer, always be ready to explain it.

(1 Peter 3:15)

8 "I tell you the truth, everyone who acknowledges me publicly here on earth, the Son of Man will also acknowledge in the presence of God's angels. 9 But anyone who denies me here on earth will be denied before God's angels." (Luke 12:8-9)

1 Dear brothers and sisters, if another believer is overcome by some sin, you who are godly should gently and humbly help that person back onto the right path. And be careful not to fall into the same temptation yourself... (Galatians 6:1-3)

...2 Share each other's burdens, and in this way obey the law of Christ. 3 If you think you are too important to help someone, you are only fooling yourself. You are not that important.

(Galatians 6:1-3)



Don't use foul or abusive language. Let everything you say be good and helpful, so that your words will be an encouragement to those who hear them.

(Ephesians 4:29)

Gentle words are a tree of life; a deceitful tongue crushes the spirit.

(Proverbs 15:4)

3. Choose Hope for Yourself

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)

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)

