

CL Talks I Hope's Confidence
Pastor Al Brice I Episode 62

Luke 24:13-24 NKJV: Their world had collapsed around them, what looked like a promising future had just turned into a hopeless demise of their dreams, the sudden termination of all they had hoped for, three days of heartbreaking agony. What appeared to be Israel's deliverance and blessing for three and a half short years was gone in three long days.

What was proclaimed as the Light of the world was now lights out.

That's what it seemed to be to the natural eye but in the spiritual realm, God was going to turn this around for the benefit of all the human race!!!

God had a plan going into these 3 days that was prophesied at the beginning of the fall of the whole human race and the devil did not know how God was going to pull this off. (Genesis 3:14-15 NKJV)

(God just prophesied the end from the beginning, Isaiah 46:9-10; 1 Peter 1:20-21 NKJV) Think about this, Jesus' life was foreordained before He lived, what about yours? (Psalm 139:14-16 NKJV)

How do I find God's will for my life?

#1. The Bible, God's written will. Romans 12:2. (This is why we have our Wednesday night discipleship classes, to educate you and your family to know God's will for your life through His Word, the Bible).

What did Jesus do when the two disciples were hopeless?

He got them to open up and share their hurt and hopelessness. Jesus is like a doctor giving a physical, He is like a psychiatrist exploring the inner depths of their mind and spirit, He is the intimate friend who probes us until we reveal all. Jesus is not just seeking analytical knowledge, this is relational knowledge which is gained from intimacy!!

Psalm 139:1-6 NLT. O Lord, you have examined my heart and know everything about me. You know when I sit down or stand up. You know my thoughts even when I'm far away. You see me when I travel and when I rest at home. You know everything I do. You know what I am going to say even before I say it, Lord. You go before me and follow me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too great for me to understand! You place your hand of blessing on my head.

This is not that He just merely knows what we think but that He understands what we think and the why behind it. He knows our location when we are thinking and talking to one another or talking to ourselves in secret.

He is not only seated at the right hand of God in Heaven but He is present with me and in me with care, concern, power, wisdom, knowledge, answers, and direction!!!!

Hebrews 4:14-16 (NKJV) 14 Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. 15 For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. 16 Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Once they opened up, He then shared the scripture with them concerning God's will in this situation so that they would not remain hopeless. (Psalm 119:130 NKJV)

What happened? Luke 24:25-27, 32 NKJV (burn=to set on fire, to light up) Jeremiah 23:29 (NKJV) "Is not My word like a fire?" says the LORD, "And like a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces?"

He declared to them God's will written in the scripture, He spoke the end from the beginning!!!

#2. Then, there is God's will, not known by you but written in His book in heaven about your life, that only the Holy Spirit knows. (1 Corinthians 2:7-16 NKJV)

Example: Look at Jesus speaking, again, concerning that which is not in scripture. (John 5:30 NKJV)

What did He instruct us to do? PRAY: Matthew 6:10 NKJV

So, what becomes just as important in your life as eating food, drinking water, socializing, watching tv, and going to work?

PRAYER AND INTERCESSION: Philippians 4:6-7 NKJV

What had these disciples lost in their hopelessness? Their Confidence in the Word of God!!!

Confidence...full trust, belief in the power, ability, and wisdom of God; the reliability of the character and trustworthiness of God.

Our confidence in God and His word launches us into boldness, courage, determination, fearlessness, tenacity, and perseverance!!!

(Proverbs 3:25-26; 14:26

Hebrews 10:32-39 NKJV)

Endurance...the capacity to continue to bear up under difficult circumstances, not with a passive complacency, but with a hopeful fortitude that actively resists weariness and defeat!!

This is the reason God instructed and warned us about dropping out of church or just showing up sporadically.

Hebrews 10:23-25 NKJV

Don't let your love for Jesus, the Bible, going to church grow cold, or give up your hope in God, you will be rewarded!!!

There is one more of God's book I want to tell you about before we close. Revelation 20:11-15

Is your name written in the Book of Life?