

CL Talks I Hope Is Alive Part One

Pastor Al Brice I Episode 59

"Hope will keep you moving forward in the darkest and toughest times when everyone else is ready to give up and throw in the towel."

Hebrews 11:1....hope is the main focus, without hope faith is unemployed!!!!

Hope is a main essential ingredient for every human being. Without it, we can sink into a horrible pit of despair, discouragement, frustration, and life itself becomes aimless, no direction, drifting (like a log floating down the river at the mercy of the current), erratic (having no certain or definite course in life), purposeless, lack of order, hit or miss, indecisive, pointless, stop dreaming, and sometimes suicidal. Proverbs 13:12 (deferred=removed)
Listen to a man who had become hopeless. Job 7:6-11

Jesus didn't die for us so we would be hopeless!!!

I. What is hope? It is a continual anticipation and expectation of a good outcome and it has to do with the unseen and the future. It is a desire or desires of something good with the expectation of obtaining it.

What are you expecting or anticipating? Some people expect nothing and that's exactly what you end up with, nothing!! Some are expecting the worst, always negative, and guess what that produces, a hopeless and give up attitude. Some people have small thinking and just hoping for a little. I would rather hope for a whole lot and only get half of it rather than hoping for a little and get all of it.

The mission and cause of the Kingdom of God is too great for us to have a small vision!! If you have no vision or a small vision become a part of something that has a large vision and join yourself to it, like a local church. (Snowflake vs Snowflakes)

A. Jesus feeding the 5000

John 6:4-13 (NKJV): 4 Now the Passover, a feast of the Jews, was near. 5 Then Jesus lifted up His eyes, and seeing a great multitude coming toward Him, He said to Philip, "Where shall we buy bread, that these may eat?" 6 But this He said to test him, for He Himself knew what He would do. 7 Philip answered Him, "Two hundred denarii worth of bread is not sufficient for them, that every one of them may have a little." 8 One of His disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to Him, 9 "There is a lad here who has five barley loaves and two small fish, but what are they among so many?" 10 Then Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, in number about five thousand. 11 And Jesus took the loaves, and when He had given thanks He distributed them to the disciples, and the disciples to those sitting down; and likewise of the fish, as much as they wanted. 12 So when they were filled, He said to His disciples, "Gather up the fragments that remain, so that nothing is lost." 13 Therefore they gathered them up, and filled twelve baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves which were left over by those who had eaten.

B. It doesn't cost you anymore to believe for a lot rather than a little!!!

Numbers 11:21-23 NLT... But Moses responded to the Lord, "There are 600,000 foot soldiers here with me, and yet you say, 'I will give them meat for a whole month!' Even if we butchered

all our flocks and herds, would that satisfy them? Even if we caught all the fish in the sea, would that be enough?"* Then the Lord said to Moses, "Has my arm lost its power? Now you will see whether or not my word comes true!"

The devil wants you to believe that all you have now is all you will ever have, you're not going get anything more, nothing will ever change for you, or if you have something good happening right now, it's not going to last!!!

God wants us to have hope, in Him and His promises, that things will change!!

Everything that comes or has come into our lives, circumstances and problems, present and past, are subject to change for the good when God is involved. Romans 8:28

The only thing in this universe that does not change is God and His Word, His promises!!!

Malachi 3:6; Hebrews 13:8

C. Recognize, identify, and acknowledge your Heavenly Father and His promises in your present and future circumstances.

Proverbs 3:1-8 (NKJV) 1 My son, do not forget my law, But let your heart keep my commands; 2 For length of days and long life And peace they will add to you. 3 Let not mercy and truth forsake you; Bind them around your neck, Write them on the tablet of your heart, 4 And so find favor and high esteem In the sight of God and man. 5 Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; 6 In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths. 7 Do not be wise in your own eyes; Fear the LORD and depart from evil. 8 It will be health to your flesh, And strength to your bones.

1. Don't let the devil sit on your shoulder proclaiming and declaring the outcome of your present situation or your future!!! (Nothing will ever change for you, never, never, never!! It's over, give up, go get drunk, go get some drugs and get high, smoke some weed, beat someone up, curse someone out, or just take your life). The devil wants you to be pessimistic, see the impossible, discourage and depress you, get you to despair, to demoralize you, he wants you to be dejected, no hope, disheartened, bummed out, no-win, gloomy, low-spirited, down in the dumps and in the pits!!! But God wants you to be optimistic, full of hope and faith, have courage, believe in the possible, expecting and anticipating His goodness!!! **Jeremiah 29:11; James 1:16-17** Don't settle for less than what God has promised you!!!