

### Hope:

A feeling of expectation and desire for a certain thing to happen.

Example: "He looked through her belongings in the hope of coming across some information."

### **Biblical Hope**

- *Elpizo*: to hope
- In a religious sense, to wait for salvation with joy and full confidence
- Hopefully to trust in

**Hebrews 11:1 (NLT)** "What is faith? It is the confident assurance that what we hope for is going to happen. It is the evidence of things we cannot yet see."

**Matthew 14:22-32** "Immediately He made the disciples get into the boat and go ahead of Him to the other side, while He sent the crowds away. <sup>23</sup> After He had sent the crowds away, He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray; and when it was evening, He was there alone. <sup>24</sup> But the boat was already a long distance from the land, battered by the waves; for the wind was contrary. <sup>25</sup> And in the fourth watch of the night He came to them, walking on the sea. <sup>26</sup> When the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. <sup>27</sup> But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Take courage, it is I; do not be afraid." <sup>28</sup> Peter said to Him, "Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water." <sup>29</sup> And He said, "Come!" And Peter got out of the boat, and walked on the water and came toward Jesus. <sup>30</sup> But seeing the wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" <sup>31</sup> Immediately Jesus stretched out His hand and took hold of him, and \*said to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" <sup>32</sup> When they got into the boat, the wind stopped. <sup>33</sup> And those who were in the boat worshiped Him, saying, "You are certainly God's Son!"

As we look at the life of the disciples we can learn from them, in fact I'm convinced Jesus planned it that way.

### **What can we learn?**

- 1.** Look for Jesus and keep looking to Jesus. Although a storm surrounded Him, Peter looked to Jesus. The only problem was that he stopped looking at Jesus.

The principle is clear: especially when life is a tumultuous storm, look for Jesus and keep looking to Jesus. What does looking to Jesus look like for you?

- 2.** When Jesus commands you, obey Him. Jesus told Peter to "come" to Him on the water. Even though it made no sense, Peter did what Jesus said.

This is what obedience looks like, lining up with the desire of Jesus' heart. Is there any area in your life that you are not obeying the Lord?

- 3.** Faith results in hope and hope is simply taking the next step. Peter took one step to get out of the boat and onto the water. Peter was doing just fine when he was focused on the next step, and got into trouble when he lost sight of his next step.

What next step has Jesus asked you to take?

- 4.** Hope unleashes the supernatural. Peter did not experience the supernatural power of God that allowed him to walk on water until he trusted as evidenced by his action

Has your hope in God been deterred? What needs to change?

- 5.** Fear will sink you. When Peter had hope, he walked on water. When he had fear, he sank in the water. The same is true for you. Fear will sink you.

Is there any fear that is gripping and controlling your decision making?

- 6.** Jesus saves you from many things. Jesus not only saved Peter from hell, but on this occasion Jesus saved Peter from drowning.  
In the midst of the storm what has Jesus saved you from?
  
- 7.** Here we see that Peter both experienced hope and lacked but his lack didn't destroy him, it made him stronger in hope. Hope is something we grow in.  
Are you lacking in hope today? Take courage and let God grow you in hope.
  
- 8.** Worship is a result of hope. You can choose to worry or worship. In an instant, the men went from worrying about their circumstances to worshipping their Christ.  
How is your worship of the Lord going?

**1 John 5:10-15** “The one who believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself; the one who does not believe God has made Him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has given concerning His Son. <sup>11</sup> And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. <sup>12</sup> He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life.<sup>13</sup> These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life. <sup>14</sup> This is the confidence which we have before Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. <sup>15</sup> And if we know that He hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests which we have asked from Him.”

**PAUL'S LOCKDOWN LIST:**

- 1)** Give thanks! Ask your family what they are thankful for.
- 2)** Encourage your family. Don't leave important things unsaid.
- 3)** Affirm your love. Give your family the gift of time.
- 4)** Pray specifically. Pray together as a family for one another and our nation.
- 5)** Recognize that God uses our trials for good.
- 6)** Make Christ your focus. Spend time in the gospels getting to know Him.
- 7)** Stand without fear. Our Father has promised never to leave or forsake us.

**Romans 8:28** “And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.”