



GIRLS RETREAT DEVOTIONAL SERIES:  
**An Invitation to see God's goodness  
in the Midst of our Suffering**

**DAY 5: HE IS THE HOPE-GIVER  
(BOTH FOR HEAVEN AND FOR JUSTICE).**

**Scripture Focus:**

"But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ" Philippians 3:20  
"And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away." Revelation 21:4  
"And now, O Lord, for what do I wait? My hope is in you." Psalm 39:7

**Brief Thought:**

Because Jesus is alive, we have hope. Hope is powerful! Hope is the gasoline that fuels our faith and causes us to continue running the race of life, even in the midst of all the pain and brokenness. Hebrews 12:1-3 says "Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus (OUR HOPE!), the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God." Before Christ came for us, we truly were hopeless. We were doomed to the pit of our own sin, but God plucked us out when Jesus came onto the scene. His offer of hope is real. It is real in the middle of our darkest days on Earth.

If you are in Christ, you are passing through this world to your home, Heaven.

You can rest assured that this eternal perspective can lighten the worst day you have on Earth.

This isn't insensitivity, suffering here on Earth is very real and painful, but it is perspective. You can trust that God will avenge every wrong. The oppressors, abusers, traffickers, greedy, and those that prey on the vulnerable, who do not repent, will answer to the Lord. It will be a very scary day for them. He will right every wrong. As Christians, we can hope for that day! We can also live now





**DAY 5: HE IS THE HOPE-GIVER  
(BOTH FOR HEAVEN AND FOR JUSTICE). PAGE 2**

with a joy and peace that the world does not know, because this world is not our home. Thank you, Jesus, for being our hope! We eagerly wait for you as we live in the already, but the not-yet! "Come Lord Jesus! The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all. Amen." Revelation 22:20b-21

**Looking Inward:**

1. Does your heart long for Heaven? If not, why not?
2. With Easter approaching, how does knowing that Jesus is alive affect you today? How does it affect your current situation?

**Closing Prayer:**

Dear Lord, apart from You we truly are hopeless. Thank You for giving us reason to press on. You are our Hope! Jesus is alive and we are so grateful! May our gratefulness flow out in fruit-form as we live lives of worship in response to what You have done. We wait on you Lord...to right every wrong done to those who are vulnerable. We wait for you to free the oppressed. To avenge the evil doers in our world. We pray that they would see their sin and repent. Show us areas of our hearts that we need to repent. We long for Heaven. We don't know what it will be like exactly, but we trust that being with You is utter bliss. Thank You for giving us this gift, this hope. May our lives billboard our gratitude through our devotion and good works. In Jesus' name, Amen.

**Reflection:**

