



Selah

August 30, 2020 Message Notes

1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-18

An infinite perspective requires faith beyond the black and white of things. The invitation today is to pause and think about the ways God activates His infinite hope in us and then makes us the evidence of infinite hope for others. God brings His infinite hope into clarity when we taste a bit of it through each other.

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NOTES

Infinite hope is real.

An infinite perspective requires faith beyond the black and white.

“Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.”

HEBREWS 11:1 KJV

If I can't see it, where's the evidence part?

Whatever inspires that rising feeling in you about something yet to be - that's your evidence. That's hope. You can't see it, but you also can't deny it.

How do you express that hope?

We talk about it. And that's how we spread the evidence of hope.

“You show that you are a letter from Christ... written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts.”

2 CORINTHIANS 3:3-4

SELAH - a moment to consider what something means before we move on too quickly.

Think about the way God activates His infinite hope in you and then writes on your heart to make you a letter of Christ - the evidence of infinite hope for others.

God fills us with infinite hope when we worship.

Failure is a part of the journey to faithfulness.

God shows up for us when we give voice to our faith in praise.

Freedom from what is finite and an awareness of what is infinite is the perspective shift that happens when we worship.

“Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise.”

PSALM 100:4

A worshipping heart begins with gratitude. Gratitude is the antidote to pride and selfishness.



What kind of a king opens His table to the commoner, to the people? What kind of a king initiates a search for the forgotten in His kingdom? OUR king, the Lord God Almighty, the Creator of heaven and earth - and nothing is too hard for Him.

“Is there no one still left of the house of Saul to whom I can show God’s kindness?”

2 SAMUEL 9:3

David shows a kindness that crushes cruelty, a promise that powers through pain, and a trust that transforms.

“But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.”

TITUS 3:4-7

God fills us with infinite hope when we remember his kindness toward us... and when we bring His promise of kindness to others.

Hope ignites in us, then grows in us, and as it comes out of us it becomes proof to others around us.

The closest biblical word for everlasting kindness is grace.

“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God.”

EPHESIANS 2:8

No matter how forgotten, how lost, how broken you feel you are, or you think someone else is - God offers His amazing grace.

“Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.”

PSALM 23:6

Our infinite hope - Redeemer God stepping in with absolute goodness. That’s what overthrows evil in the world and what turns a failure into a future.

God fills us with infinite hope when we trust that He is good.



“God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.”

ROMANS 8:28

God goes to work in whatever and works to bring good from it forever.

He doesn't cause all things but He assigns himself workspace in all things.

“You are good, and the source of good; train me in your goodness.”

PSALM 119:68 MSG

God brings His infinite hope into clarity when we taste a bit of it through others.

God fills us with infinite hope when we choose to be thankful.

Have you ever asked yourself, “what's God's will for my life?”

“Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.”

1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-18

God's Spirit comes alive in us by faith when we receive Jesus as our Savior and trust Him for the forgiveness of sins.

Gratitude is one of the most distinctive qualities of a Spirit-filled Christ-follower. And giving thanks in all things is part of that evidence. Not FOR all things, but IN all things.

Gratitude is also the antidote to fear and shame.

Gratitude puts us in a posture of openness to more - more joy, more peace, more freedom, more hope.

“Nothing turns us into bitter, selfish, dissatisfied people more quickly than an ungrateful heart. And nothing will do more to restore contentment and the joy of our salvation than a true spirit of thankfulness. Today, too, ingratitude and thanklessness are far too common. Children forget to thank their parents for all that they do. Common courtesy is scorned. We take for granted the ways that others help us. Above all, we fail to thank God for His blessings. Ingratitude is a sin, just as surely as is lying or stealing or immorality or any other sin condemned by the Bible. One of the Bible's indictments against rebellious humanity is that ‘although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him’ (Romans 1:21, NIV). An ungrateful heart is a heart that is cold toward God and indifferent to His mercy and love. It is a heart that has forgotten how dependent we are on God for everything.” – Billy Graham



Don't miss out on being filled with His infinite hope because we spend our energy on complaining and criticizing instead of focusing our energy on praising and glorifying.

What if 2020 is one big SELAH invitation from God? The chance to pause, consider, evaluate.

God is inviting us to get to work with Him.

The pause is part of the work.

How can the pause be part of the work?

1. I will praise God always.
2. I will receive God's kindness and then go be kind.
3. I will trust that God is good and believe that He is at work FOR my good.
4. I will choose to be thankful.

"It is God who works in us to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose."

PHILIPPIANS 2:13

If God is encouraging us, let's become the evidence of that by encouraging others. Let's be hope for others.

Who in your life deserves a 'thank you'? Let them know.

"Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!"

2 CORINTHIANS 9:15

The gift of infinite hope - as the God of all that is seen and unseen makes Himself known in the person of Jesus Christ, His Son.

"Christ is the visible image of the invisible God. He existed before anything was created and is supreme over all creation, for through him God created everything in the heavenly realms and on earth. He made the things we can see and the things we can't see.... Everything was created through him and for him. He existed before anything else, and he holds all creation together."

COLOSSIANS 1:15-17, NLT

Our story ends in the infinite.

"And this is the secret: Christ lives in you. This gives you assurance of sharing his glory."

COLOSSIANS 1:27





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