

### Faith, Hope, & Love

Faith is believing that God is who He says He is, that He will do what He says He will do, and living my life accordingly.

Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.

#### Hebrews 11:1 NIV

When we walk by faith, we face the reality of this life while trusting in the *reality* of God's existence and in the *certainty* of God's promises.

### Hope

### Hope is the outcome of faith.

# Hope is the present confidence in a future reality.

Hope begins in the dark, the stubborn hope that if you just show up and try to do the right thing, the dawn will come. You wait and watch and work: you don't give up.

Anne Lamott

# The consequence of walking by faith is living with hope.

## This is what the ancients were commended for.

Hebrews 11:2 NIV

### Jeremiah

Hope means hoping when all seems hopeless.

G.K. Chesterton

Jerusalem, once so full of people, is now deserted. She who was once great among the nations now sits alone like a widow. Once the queen of all the earth, she is now a slave.

#### Lamentations 1:1 NLT

She sobs through the night; tears stream down her cheeks. Among all her lovers, there is no one left to comfort her. All her friends have betrayed her and become her enemies.

Lamentations 1:2 NLT

I have cried until the tears no longer come; my heart is broken. My spirit is poured out in agony as I see the desperate plight of my people. Little children and tiny babies are fainting and dying in the streets.

Lamentations 2:11 NLT

In the midst of her sadness and wandering, Jerusalem remembers her ancient splendor. But now she has fallen to her enemy, and there is no one to help her. Her enemy struck her down and laughed as she fell.

Lamentations 1:7 NLT

"O Lord, think about this! Should you treat your own people this way? Should mothers eat their own children, those they once bounced on their knees? Should priests and prophets be killed within the Lord's Temple?

Lamentations 2:20 NLT

"See them lying in the streets young and old, boys and girls, killed by the swords of the enemy...

Lamentations 2:21 NLT

l am the one who has seen the afflictions...

Lamentations 3:1 NLT

He has besieged and surrounded me with anguish and distress.

Lamentations 3:5 NLT

He has buried me in a dark place, like those long dead.

Lamentations 3:6 NLT

He has walled me in, and I cannot escape. He has bound me in heavy chains. And though I cry and shout, he has shut out my prayers.

Lamentations 3:7-8 NLT

He has dragged me off the path and torn me in pieces, leaving me helpless and devastated. He has drawn his bow and made me the target for his arrows.

Lamentations 3:11-12 NLT

Peace has been stripped away, and I have forgotten what prosperity is. I cry out, "My splendor is gone! Everything I had hoped for from the Lord is lost!"

Lamentations 3:17-18 NLT

The thought of my suffering and homelessness is bitter beyond words. I will never forget this awful time, as I grieve over my loss.

#### Lamentations 3:19-20 NIV

## Yet I still dare to hope when I remember this:

Lamentations 3:21 NLT

## The faithful love of the Lord never ends! His mercies never cease.

Lamentations 3:22 NLT

Great is his faithfulness; his mercies begin afresh each morning.

Lamentations 3:23 NLT

I say to myself, "The Lord is my inheritance; therefore, I will hope in him!"

Lamentations 3:24 NLT

The Lord is good to those who depend on him, to those who search for him. So it is good to wait quietly for salvation from the Lord.

#### Lamentations 3:25-26 NLT

This is what the Lord says: "You will be in Babylon for seventy years. But then I will come and do for you all the good things I have promised, and I will bring you home again.

Jeremiah 29:10 NLT

For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Jeremiah 29:11 NIV

# Hope refuses to become a casualty of circumstance.

Hope endures the bad things confident that God works all things for good. Hope is confident of this one thing: every promise God makes, God keeps.

# God's promises are windows into your future.