

The Full Assurance of Hope
Hebrews 6:9-20
10-2-22

How can we hold on to hope in all situations?

I. We live in God's presence.

Hebrews 6:9-10 – *"Though we speak in this way, yet in your case, beloved, we feel sure of better things—things that belong to salvation. For God is not unjust so as to overlook your work and the love that you have shown for his name in serving the saints, as you still do."*

God rewards us in two areas:

1. Our work - The things we do.
2. Our love - The reason we do, our motives.

II. We surround ourselves with fellow believers.

Hebrews 6:11-12 – *"And we desire each one of you to show the same earnestness to have the full assurance of hope until the end, so that you may not be sluggish, but imitators of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises."*

Five Qualities to look for in people we surround ourselves with:

1. People who want us to mature in our faith. (we desire each one)
2. People who are diligent in obedience to Christ. (earnestness)
3. People who are not lazy in their relationship with Christ. (not be sluggish)
4. People who are unwavering in their commitment to Christ. (faith)
5. People who are long-suffering in the adversities of life. (patient)

III. We trust what God promises.

Hebrews 6:13-18 – *"For when God made a promise to Abraham, since he had no one greater by whom to swear, he swore by himself, saying, 'Surely I will bless you and multiply you.' And thus Abraham, having patiently waited, obtained the promise. For people swear by something greater than themselves, and in all their disputes an oath is final for confirmation. So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, he guaranteed it with an oath, so that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us."*

What do we learn about the promises of God from the passage quoted by the writer of Hebrews? (Genesis 22:1-18)

1. Obedience to God doesn't mean life will be easy.
2. Sometimes trusting God seems impossible.
3. Immediate obedience is the best way to see God work.
4. God is working in his timing, not ours.
5. God always shows up.

IV. We run to Him for refuge.

Hebrews 6:18-20 – "...so that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us. We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner place behind the curtain, where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest forever after the order of Melchizedek."

What is available when we trust God's promises and run to him for refuge?

1. Encouragement
2. Hope
3. Access to the throne

Growing Deeper This Week

1. How does the author use his admonition to encourage believers in the certainty of their salvation?
2. What are some practical ways that you and your church can serve and assist other like-minded churches? How are you and MCC currently serving and working with other churches? With individual Christians?
3. What are evidences of a heart receiving the gospel as opposed to one rejecting it? How is your earnestness in the gospel on display?
4. Name Old Testament saints other than Abraham who showed faith in God's promises and waited patiently for their fulfillment. How might you imitate their example?
5. How do God's promises to Abraham apply to believers today? What does it mean to be an heir with Abraham? How does being an heir of God's promise change your perspective on the promises of this world?
6. How does God's unchangeableness encourage you to flee to Him in times of trouble or temptation? As you think about your experiences as a Christian, what are some tangible ways the truth of God's Word has anchored your soul and encouraged you to hold on to the hope set before you?
7. Pray for your "One".