

GPS: Grow—Pray—Study
Sunday, April 27, 2014

Last Sunday, we celebrated the great feast of the Christian calendar, Easter, and observed the event which forms the basis of our hope and our faith, the resurrection of Jesus Christ. But as we move forward from the season of Easter, what does such hope and faith mean? What does it mean to have hope in Christ, when we exit the doors of the church and conduct our lives and business in the world of the 21st century?

Today we learn more about our hope in Christ as our pastor preaches about the enduring sacrifice of Christ, proof of God’s eternal and infinite care.

The Scriptural basis for today’s sermon is 1 Peter 1:3-9:

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you, who through faith are shielded by God’s power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, for you are receiving the end result of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Sermon Notes

REFLECTIONS FOR THE COMING WEEK

MONDAY—Psalm 25:1

“In you, Lord my God, I put my trust.”

- Inventory the things that get you through a rough Monday. There is coffee, the internet, radio and television, food and drink. Is there faith? Remember where your hope is by praying about it.

TUESDAY—Psalm 25:2

“I trust in you; do not let me be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me.”

- Ask God’s help today in defeating the sins that beset you.

WEDNESDAY—1 Corinthians 15:19

“If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.”

- The promise of God in our day is good, but the promise is not merely for today. Be an instrument of God’s grace for someone today, knowing that to do so is to be a small part of a grace that is infinite.

THURSDAY—1 Peter 1:3

“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.”

- Share the Good News with a kind word, a social media post, or an act.

FRIDAY—1 Peter 1:8-9

“Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, for you are receiving the end result of your faith, the salvation of your souls.”

- He is not here, he is risen. Let the hope of Christ allow you to finish the week in good form. Be kind, remember the poor and the lonely.

SATURDAY—1 Peter 1:5

“This inheritance is kept in heaven for you, who through faith are shielded by God’s power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.”

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK: Christ is the sure foundation and the precious cornerstone of my life, of my faith, of my hope. Let me walk nowhere without him, be in no one’s company without him, and accomplish nothing without Christ. Praise be to the God and Father of Our Lord Jesus Christ.