

Series: ANCHORED IN HOPE

Title: Habits of Hope

Speaker: Bob Marvel

Date: October 21-22, 2017

Guess what we're starting with this week? Who's ready to quote our theme verses for the series, Psalm 33:20-22?

How is Engage going and who has something to share?

Desmond Tutu's face and his life beam out hope. Think about his statement, "I'm not optimistic, no, I'm quite different. I'm hopeful." In what sense is hope greater than optimism?

We all love the Lord's promise to Jeremiah for the exiles in Babylon in Jeremiah 29:11. That said, how does the verse before widen our understanding of hope?

Have several people read the following passages: 2 Corinthians 4:8-9,16, and John 16:33. How do Paul and Jesus connect hope to the harsh realities of life? How does that connection increase our "hope quotient" (see Romans 15:13)?

With that background Bob then focused on three crucial habits we can develop to be people who aren't helpless, but hopeful. These habits anchor us. Let's look at each one.

Habit 1 Refocus on the S_____. And what is the source? See 2 Timothy 2:2 and Hebrews 12:2 and don't forget Colossians 1:27. Read Psalm 27:4. To review, what did Pastor Kip mean a few weeks ago when he observed that there's a difference between hoping for and hoping in?

Habit 2 Remain in the T_____. See 1 Samuel 30:6, Romans 12:2 and Philippians 4:8. Here Bob quoted John Ortberg's challenge to "cultivate a mind dominated by the word of God". What are you doing to develop this new mindset?

Habit 3 Redirect to W_____. Read Habakkuk 3:16-19. Why is worship a game changer when it comes to hope? Can you recall and share a time when your world was crashing and you responded with worship? What was going on and what did you do?

From Psalm 42:11 what can we learn about God honoring "self-talk"?

I loved how we closed the service praying for courageous folks expressing their need for prayer and hope. Does anyone here need some special prayer?

As you close your discussion invite someone to read the lyrics we sang to "When the Fight Calls" as a prayer.

OVER....

You've overcome this world with love
And made my fight Your own
I lift my eyes and throw fear aside
And sing out into the night
Cause even when the world caves
Even when the fight calls
Even when the war's waged
I'll take heart
I know You are greater
Forever You are Savior
I will sing Your praise
With all that I have
With all that I am Lord

I'll stare down the waves
Cause You own the tide
I still myself and know
You wait for me
On waters wild
Where faith walks above the storm

I won't let the storm weather my heart
Won't let the darkness beat me down
Sing in the night my hope alive in You
I'll walk through the fire and not be burned
Pray in the fight and watch it turn
Jesus tonight I give it all to You

Even when the world caves
Even when the fight calls
Even when the war's waged
I'll take heart
I know You are greater
Forever You are Savior
I will sing Your praise
With all that I have
With all that I am Lord
With all that I have
With all that I am Lord