Romans 15:1-13

#### What Makes a Great Church?

Week 4

# Hope! It's Inspirational

#### Introduction:

Hope is a confident anticipation of good things to come with the corresponding effort to reach and attain them.

## 1. The Streams of Hope

"For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope." - Romans 15:4

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." - Romans 15:13

#### Hope can come through trials, and never disappoints!

#### The Christian's Experience:

"Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ..." - Romans 5:1

#### God's Grace:

"... through whom [Jesus] we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand." - Romans 5:2

#### The Christian's Hope comes through trials:

"And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. <sup>3</sup> Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; <sup>4</sup> perseverance, character; and character, hope. <sup>5</sup> And hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us." - Romans 5:2-5

### 2. The Source of Hope

"May **the God of hope** fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him..." - Romans 15:13a

• Hope is only as good as it's source. The source of our hope is "the God of hope!"

- Why do we have this hope?
  - 1. God's Character (Hebrews 6:13-19)
  - 2. God's Control (Hebrews 1:3)
  - 3. God's Promises

"For the eyes of the LORD range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to Him." - 2 Chronicles 16:9

4. God's Son

#### 3. The Substance of Hope

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him..."
- Romans 15:13b

- The God of hope can fill me with all joy and peace!
- When and How? As I put my trust in Him!

## 4. The Supply of Hope

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may **overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit**." - Romans 15:13c

- I can "overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."
- There are graduated levels of the power of the Holy Spirit:
  - 1. Surviving power
  - 2. Reviving power
  - 3. Striving power
  - 4. Diving power
  - 5. Driving power
  - 6. Arriving power

"In all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us."
- Romans 8:37

#### **Closing Thought:**

• Are you looking for hope? Then grab hold of the rope of hope. It is as strong as God's character and as long as your faith.

Romans 15:1-13

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