

FOR *Hope*

We live in a world where so much has been flipped upside down. Millions are getting sick, thousands are dying, people are losing jobs, the economy is unsteady, and racial tensions and political races have the country divided. This doesn't even take into account normal everyday struggles people face! In the midst of all this, it can feel like the one thing we need the most is the one thing we can't find: *hope*. Yet God has made this gift of hope available to us no matter what the circumstances.

1. Describe a recent time in your life where you felt hopeless. How did you find hope enough to get through it?
2. Read the following verses. How can remembering God's faithfulness and constant presence give you hope?

This hope is a strong and trustworthy anchor for our souls. **Hebrews 6:19**

"Be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." **Joshua 1:6**

"Don't be afraid, for I am with you. Don't be discouraged, for I am your God." **Isaiah 41:10**

And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them. **Romans 8:28**

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**

3. Dave said this, "The difficulty you go through in your life... the challenges you go through... the pain... the hurts... the betrayal... GOD CAN USE ALL OF THAT FOR GOOD! That's why he is the God of hope!" How have you found this to be true in your life? Be specific.
4. In order for us to raise our level of hope there are three things we can do: 1) Refuel; 2) Feed our minds with positivity; and 3) Focus on a better future. Which one of these do you need the most in your life?
5. What is one area of your life right now where you are lacking hope? How can this group pray for you and help you?