- Most people understand hope as wishful thinking, as in "I hope something will happen." This is not what the Bible means by hope. The biblical definition of hope is ***"confident expectation."***
- Hope is a firm assurance regarding things that are unclear and unknown—Hebrews 11:1 "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for the conviction of things not seen."
- Without hope, life loses its meaning—Lamentations 3:18 "…so I say, 'My endurance has perished; so has my hope from the Lord.'"

1. Hope Anchored in Christ
2. Hope in Trials
3. Hope for the Future
4. Renewed Hope
5. Sharing our Hope
6. Hope During Uncertainty
7. Hope Through Prayer
8. Enduring Hope

1. Anchored in Christ

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."

Romans 15:13 "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."

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."

Colossians 1:27 "To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory."

Romans 5:5 "And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us."

2. Hope in the Midst Trials

We all encounter trials and tribulations in life. It's part of the human experience, but what makes us different is the hope we have in Christ during these tough times. He doesn't leave us alone in our struggles.

James 1:2-3 "Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance."
2 Corinthians 4:16-18 "Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all."
Romans 8:28 "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."
1 Thessalonians 1:3 "We remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ."
Psalms 31:24 "Be strong and take heart, all you who hope in the Lord."

3. Hope for the Future

As we go through life, we have got to have an eye on the horizon—the future. Our hope in Christ assures us that our ultimate future is victory.

Revelation 21:4 "'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away."
Philippians 1:6 "Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus."
Isaiah 40:31 "But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."

4. Renewed Hope

Sometimes, we find ourselves in situations where hope seems distant. But in these moments, we can cling to the promise that our hope in Christ can be renewed.

Psalms 119:114 "You are my refuge and my shield; I have put my hope in your word."
Lamentations 3:22-23 "Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness."
Psalms 42:11 "Why, my soul, are you downcast? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God."
Isaiah 43:18-19 "Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland."
Romans 8:18 "I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us."

5. Sharing Our Hope

We are called to be vessels of hope. Our hope in Christ is not just for us; it's meant to be shared with everyone around us. We can lift one another's burdens and instill hope in those who are struggling. Together, let's build a community that radiates Christ's love and hope. Let's commit to being the hands and feet of Jesus, showing His hope in tangible ways through acts of kindness, love, and support.

1 Peter 3:15 "But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have."
Hebrews 10:24-25 "And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching."
2 Corinthians 1:4 "Who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble."
Galatians 6:2 "Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ."

6. Hope During Uncertainty

Life is full of uncertainties and many times seem overwhelming. However, we can rest in the knowledge that our hope in Christ remains constant.

Isaiah 26:3 "You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast, because they trust in you."
Philippians 4:6-7 "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."
Romans 12:12 "Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer."

7. Hope Through Prayer

I think it's safe to say that relationship with God equals prayer. Through prayer, we communicate with Him. This act of surrender is a powerful way to release our burdens and allow Him to fill us with hope. Remember God is sovereign and He cares.

Philippians 4:19 "And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus."
Matthew 7:7 "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you."

Jeremiah 33:3 "Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know."
1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 "Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

8. Everlasting Hope

Lastly, we need to remember that our hope in Christ is everlasting. Happiness and pleasures are temporary, but the hope we find in Him is eternal.

Romans 8:38-39 "For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."
Titus 1:2 "In the hope of eternal life, which God, who does not lie, promised before the beginning of time."
1 John 2:25 "And this is what he promised us—eternal life."
Revelation 22:12 "Look, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to each person according to what they have done."
John 11:25 "Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die."
1 Corinthians 13:11-12 "When I was a child, I spoke and thought and reasoned as a child. But when I grew up, I put away childish things. Now we see things imperfectly, like puzzling reflections in a mirror, but then we will see everything with perfect clarity. All that I know now is partial and incomplete, but then I will know everything completely, just as God now knows me completely. Three things will last forever-faith, hope, and love and the greatest of these is love."