



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
GOD. SERVE. LOVE. COMMUNITY.

Unpacking Hope: Part IV
Wednesdays in The Word
June 28, 2017
Reverend Tyrone McGowan, Pastor

When Hope Hurts...Play Your Part

“Hope in reality is the worst of all evils because it prolongs the torments of man.” – Friedrich Neitzche

“Hope has two beautiful daughters. Their names are anger and courage; anger at the way things are, and courage to see that they do not remain the way they are.” – Saint Augustine of Hippo

“When you pray, move your feet.” – An African Proverb

“I prayed for freedom for twenty years, but received no answer until I prayed with my legs.” – Frederick Douglass

- Divine promises are attached to human participation.
- There is a certain synergy between divine potency and human agency – Meaning divinity has the power, but humanity has to participate.
- When we pray like it’s up to God but work like it’s up to us, there is always hope.
- There is an aspect of Hope that can make us lazy and apathetic.

God’s Part vs. Our Part

- I.** If we **trust**, God will **direct** our path. *Proverbs 3:5-6*
- II.** If we **fret** not nor be **envious**, God will **cut** them down. *Psalm 37:1-2*
- III.** If we **delight** in the Lord, He will **give** us the desires of our hearts. *Psalms 37:4*
- IV.** If we **bring** our tithes, God will **open** the windows of heaven, **pour** out blessings, **rebuke** the devourer. *Malachi 3:10-11*
- V.** If we **seek** first the kingdom of God and God’s righteousness, then God will **add** all these things. *Matthew 6:33*
- VI.** If we **keep** our minds on God, God will **keep** us in perfect peace. *Isaiah 26:3*



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Healthy Hope means: Divine Power works with our Human Participation

- I. Can we be obedient when we cannot *see*? *John 9:1-7*
- II. Can we be obedient when it's *heavy* and it *stinks*? *John 11:38-44*
- III. Can we be obedient when we are *tired* and have had no *success*? *Luke 5:2-7*
- IV. Can we be obedient when the *instructions* make no *sense*? *Luke 17:11-14*

You'll Never Regret Playing Your Part

- I. God will make your *labor* worth it. *I Corinthians 15:58*
- II. God is able to *keep* you from falling. *Jude 1:20-24*