



Journal

Chapter 25: HOPE

Personal Study

Last week you examined the virtue of self-control. Perhaps you were encouraged to tame your tongue or rein in your temper. This week before your group meeting, read *Believe, Chapter 25: Hope*. Then, allow the truths of Scripture to fill your soul with hopefulness.

Read

Read Believe, Chapter 25: Hope and answer the following questions.

1. Describe the common patterns found in these verses.

2. As you read this chapter, what questions came to mind?

3. What did you read that concerned you?

Challenged you? _____

Inspired you? _____

4. Which false hope is most seductive to you: riches, people, idols, or human government?

5. In what ways now or in your past have you placed your confidence in a false hope? What were the results of this decision?

6. If faith is an ally of hope, what are some of hope's adversaries?

Evaluate

Based on your reading from Believe, Chapter 25: Hope, evaluate your level of confidence in the statements below, using a 1–6 scale (1 = no confidence, 6 = complete certainty).

_____ I think a great deal about heaven and what God is preparing for me as a Christian.

_____ I am confident that God is working everything out for my good, regardless of the circumstances today.

_____ My hope in God increases through my daily pursuit to live like Christ.

_____ My hope for the future is not found in my health or wealth because both are so uncertain, but in God.

Take Action

Memorizing Scripture is a valuable discipline for all believers to exercise. Spend a few minutes each day committing this week's Key Verse to memory.

Key Verses: “We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain, where our forerunner, Jesus, has entered on our behalf.” (Hebrews 6:19 – 20)

Recite this week’s Key Idea out loud. As you do, ask yourself, “Does my life reflect this statement?”

Key Idea: I can cope with the hardships of life and death because of the hope I have in Jesus Christ.

Answer the following questions to help you apply this week’s Key Idea to your own life.

1. How would this virtue express itself in your life?

2. What visible attributes can be found in someone who is filled with hope?

3. What is impeding your ability experience hopefulness?

How can you overcome this obstacle?

4. What action step can you take this week to increase your belief in the promises of God?
