



**PINELLAS COMMUNITY CHURCH
MESSAGE NOTES**

December 27, 2009

Speaker: Mike Conaway
Maturity Pastor

Series: OneHope

Title: One Hope for the New Year

Ephesians 4:4: God called you to have one hope.

Hope is not optional.

- Hope is a belief in a positive outcome related to events and circumstances in one's life.
- Hope is the feeling that what is wanted can be had or that events will turn out for the best.
- When used in a relationship to Christ, hope carries a connotation of being aware of spiritual truth.
- To the Christ follower hope is one of three virtues (faith, hope, and love) which are spiritual gifts from God. It is not a physical emotion but a spiritual grace.
- We can not survive without hope because without hope we don't want to survive.

Against all hope Abraham _____ and so he _____.

Romans 4:18-25 (NIV)

18Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as it had been said to him, "So shall your offspring be." [a] 19Without weakening in his faith, he faced the fact that his body was as good as dead since he was about a hundred years old and that Sarah's womb was also dead. 20Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, 21being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised. 22This is why "it was credited to him as righteousness." 23The words "it was credited to him" were written not for him alone, 24but also for us, to whom God will credit righteousness for us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead. 25He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification.

- Abraham believed when there was nothing from the world's point of view to justify his faith or hope.
- When Abraham had no grounds for hope he still relied in hope on the promise of God.

Faith doesn't close its eyes to _____.

- It is not limited to our best human guesses of what is possible, it is faith in the God "who gives life to the dead."
- Hope does not overlook the facts.
- It recognizes what is dead is dead and knows that only God can give life where there is no life.
- You and I must be fully convinced and hope against all hope that God has the power to fulfill every promise He has ever made to us.

Abraham had nothing to hope in but a _____ from God.

Don't miss this: It was not faith that took a WEAK Abraham and made him STRONG. Abraham was made strong because of his faith, **but it was GOD, not faith** that provided strength.

Three out of four times when Paul uses the word "DEAD" he refers to the raising from the dead. His interest is in life even when he uses the word death. What seems dead in your life? What is in need of new life?

What are you believing God for this coming year? What breakthrough do you need from God? What miracle are you trusting God for? What is God saying to you? What promise is God asking you to live out? Where is God asking you to trust Him?

Are you supposed to go to a missions trip? Are you supposed to join a ministry team? Are you supposed to become a regular giver? Are you supposed to make a phone call or write a letter? What are you to give to the onehope offering?

What are you hoping against all hope for?

Next Step: (Inside Your Program)

- Grab the onehope book mark.
- Write out your prayer request.
- As a church family let's merge our faith, hope, love, and trust in God together so we can BELIEVE and BECOME all that He wants us to be.

PCC's Mission: To become fully devoted followers of Christ.



connect



grow



serve



share



honor