

YEAR OF GROWTH

HOPE WEEK 2

EXAMPLES

Old Testament:

Day One – Sunday

Reflect on the definitions of the words that God used to describe hope. Think back over the previous lessons. Read again the passages that you have written. Recall the verses you have memorized. Focus on the meaning of hope and prepare to explore important Bible examples.

Day Two – Monday

Job 7:1-6

Job suffered tremendous losses and there seemed to be no end to his heartache. In the midst of his difficulties, Job began to lose hope. However, he continued to pray to God. When the struggles of the physical world seemed hopeless, there was still hope to be found in the Lord. In the end, Job's faith was rewarded, and his hope was realized.

Day Three – Tuesday

Psalm 16:8-11

David understood the hope of the resurrection. When the time of his death came, his flesh would rest in hope. However, this hope was only possible through the resurrection of Jesus the Messiah. Thus, verse 10 is a prophecy about Jesus, that He would not remain in the grave (cf. Acts 2:27; 13:35). It is only in Jesus that we have hope.

Day Four – Wednesday

Psalm 42 – 43

These two psalms seem to comprise a song of three stanzas, each ending with the same statement. "Why art thou cast down, O my soul? And why art thou disquieted within me? Hope in God." Despite the troubles of life, the psalmist longed for God, looked to God, and lauded God! This is the power of hope.

Day Five – Thursday**Jeremiah 17:5-17**

Jeremiah placed his hope in the Lord. In fact, he identified God as “The Hope of Israel.” Most of the people of Judah had abandoned Jehovah and placed their trust in man. For this they were cursed and taken into captivity. The blessed man is one who trusts in the Lord and has God for his hope.

Day Six – Friday**Lamentations 3:21-26**

In the midst of his mourning for the people of God, Jeremiah remembered something that gave him hope. Though they were being punished and disciplined, they had not been destroyed. This was because of the mercy, love, and faithfulness of God. Thus, Jeremiah knew that hope placed in God would never fail. In fact, it is good for a man to hope and quietly wait for the salvation of the Lord.

Day Seven – Saturday**Joel 3:13-16**

We live continually in the “valley of decision.” Will we choose to do right or wrong, good or evil? Will we choose to serve God or self? Will we choose salvation or condemnation? The wrath of God is terrifying for those who have chosen evil. But God promises to be the hope of His people – those who have chosen righteousness. With hope in God, we have nothing to fear.