**I Must EMBRACE MY HOPE**

**Anchored: Standing Firm in a Changing World**

***God decided to let his people know this rich and glorious secret which he has for all people. This secret is Christ himself, who is in you. He is our only hope for glory.***

**Col 1:27 (NCV)**

**HOW I EMBRACE MY HOPE**

**1. I come into \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

***We who have run for our very lives to God have every reason to grab the promised hope with both hands and never let go. It’s an unbreakable spiritual lifeline, reaching past all appearances right to the very presence of God.***

**Heb. 6:18-20 (Mes)**

***Let all that I am wait quietly before God, for my hope is in him. He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress where I will not be shaken.*  Psa. 62:5-6 (NLT)**

***I say to myself, “The LORD is mine, so I hope in him.” The LORD is good to those who hope in him, to those who seek him.* Lam. 3:24-25 (NCV)**

**2. I Focus on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

***For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord. They are plans for good and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. In those days when you pray, I will listen. You will find me when you seek me, if you look for me in earnest.***

**Jer. 29:11-13 (LB)**

***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.* Isa. 40:31**

***Don’t worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. Then you will experience God’s peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.* Phil. 4:6 (NLT)**

**3. I Rely on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

***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.* Rom. 15:13**

***Through Christ Jesus you have become rich in every way—in speech and knowledge of every kind… He will continue to give you strength until the end...  God faithfully keeps his promises. He called you to be partners with his Son Jesus Christ our Lord.* 1 Cor. 1:5-9 (GW)**

***All I want is to know Christ and to experience the power of his resurrection, to share in his sufferings and become like him in his death, in the hope that I myself will be raised from death to life.*  Phil. 3:10-11 (GN)**

**4. I Reach out to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

***Two people are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed.  If one person falls, the other can reach out and help. But someone who falls alone is in real trouble.***

**Eccl 4:9-10 (NLT)**

***Let us hold tightly without wavering to the hope we affirm, for God can be trusted to keep his promise. Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works.* Heb. 10:23-24 (NLT)**

***God chose to save us through our Lord Jesus Christ… Christ died for us so that, whether we are dead or alive when he returns, we can live with him forever.  So encourage each other and build each other up, just as you are already doing.*  1 Thes. 5:9-11 (NLT)**

***I long to visit you so I can bring you some spiritual gift that will help you grow strong in the Lord.  When we get together, I want to encourage you in your faith, but I also want to be encouraged by yours.*  Rom. 1:11-12 (NLT)**

***I will never give up hope or stop praising you.***

**Psa. 71:14 (CEV)**