



# ***Brownwood Baptist Church***

*"Where love for God and others becomes a reality" 1 John 4:7-11*

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Good evening Brownwood Baptist Community!

I hope each of you are staying healthy and enjoying a somewhat slower pace of life. I want to remind you that we have great opportunities in these days to reconnect with our immediate families, to reconnect with simpler days of past we long for, and to reconnect with some forgotten ways of life.

This evening I would like to encourage you to abound in hope. Romans 15:13 "Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

Here are some things you can take away from this passage.

1. Our God is the God of hope. If you claim Him as your Father you must claim this as one of His titles. He does not inspire doubt or fear, but hope and power!
2. He is the only one and way you will be filled with joy and peace in difficult days. All of our lives have been turned upside down and for many their happiness has gone with the former way of life. This is a great opportunity for you to look for your joy and peace in our Father of hope.
3. As we are filled with joy and peace in these days we can abound with hope. Why? Because our joy and peace is not founded in this world or anything this world offers us. We stand on the rock of Jesus Christ and Him alone. It is because of this that we can abound in hope.
4. We cannot leave the Holy Spirit's role out of this verse. Jesus sent us the Holy Spirit to be our comforter. The word comforter means one who comes along side. We can abound in hope because of who we found our life on and because of who it is that is walking with us in the midst of this moment.

Our God Reigns! Church, let your hope abound tonight in prayer. Pray for one another, pray for our leaders, but most of all praise our Heavenly Father because He is worthy!

Anthony Cottrell  
Pastor, Brownwood Baptist Church