

LIVING HOPE COMMUNITY CHURCH

# NEWSLETTER



This month is all about living boldly—bringing God’s light into the world and letting His power transform us from within. You were never meant to blend in. You were made to shine, to preserve, and to reflect Him. Let these pages stir something in you.

God calls us to be his children and in his power we can achieve anything

**“But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.” - John 1:12**

## Upcoming May Birthdays

- Sherry D. (21st)
- Debra J. (23rd)





## Sunday Sermon Salt & Light

Jesus tells us in Matthew 5:13–16 that we are the salt of the earth and the light of the world. At first glance, that sounds poetic—but it's also a clear challenge. It's a call to step up and live differently. Not just for ourselves, but for the sake of everyone around us.

Let's start with salt. Salt isn't loud. It doesn't try to be the star of the show. But without it, everything's bland. When Jesus says you are the salt of the earth, He's talking about the impact we have on the lives we touch. When you live out the Beatitudes—showing mercy, seeking righteousness, making peace—you're adding flavor to this world. You're the kind of person who brings joy to a room, who notices others, who enhances their experience. You're present, intentional, and full of care.

Being salt means you don't just pass through life—you season it. You bring out the God-given potential in others. You show up for people. You speak life into dead places. In a culture that's constantly trying to water down the truth, being salt means preserving what's good and true in a world that's slowly losing its flavor.

And then there's light. Light doesn't whisper—it shines. It doesn't hide in the corner, it breaks through darkness. Jesus says, "A city on a hill cannot be hidden." In other words, if God's light is in you, people are meant to see it. Not for your glory—but so they're pointed to Him.

Being the light means walking into a room and shifting the atmosphere. It's not about being loud or flashy. It's about being steady. You live with character. You choose love over bitterness. Truth over comfort. And when people see how you live, they're drawn to something bigger—something divine. They might not even be able to put it into words. But they'll know there's light there. And it shines through you.



## Personal Reflection Salt & Light

Out of all the sermons I've heard, this one might be my favorite. Salt and Light. Not just because it sounds cool or because it's inspiring—it's because it hit me deep. It was one of those messages that doesn't just pass through your ears... it stays. It spoke to the way I was living—and it called me higher.

Lately, I've been thinking a lot about legacy. About the kind of man I want to be. And this message made it clear: I don't want to live life just coasting, fading into the background. I don't want to be forgettable. I want to be someone who adds something real to this world. Someone who enhances it—who brings God's presence with him into every space.

That's what being salt and light is about. Not perfection. But purpose.

It's easy to live life focused on yourself, stuck in your own head or your own struggles. But this sermon reminded me that my life is meant to be a light for others. A steady, honest, God-filled light. And salt? That means being intentional in the way I treat people—choosing to speak encouragement, to serve, to notice others when everyone else looks away.

This isn't just a Sunday feel-good message. It's a challenge I want to keep in front of me every day. I want to walk into a room and bring something different. Not ego. Not noise. But light. Depth. God's love. That's the kind of man I want to be.

So here's the truth—I've still got a lot of growing to do. But this sermon reminded me that it's worth it. That God wants to use people like you and me to flavor this earth and light it up.



## Sydel's Daily Devotion

# Embracing God's Transformative Power

This week's devotion continues the journey of Embracing God's Transformative Power with a fresh set of verses that stir something deep in the soul. Romans 12:2 calls us to reject the ways of the world and let God renew our minds—transformation begins when we allow Him to shift our thinking and shape our desires. Philippians 4:13 reminds us that we can do all things through Christ who gives us strength. It's not about mustering up willpower, but about leaning on His power to carry us through every challenge. Philippians 1:6 reassures us that God finishes what He starts—He's not done with us yet, and every step of the journey is part of His master plan. 2 Timothy 1:7 speaks boldly: we are not made to live in fear. The Spirit God gave us is full of power, love, and a sound mind—that's the Spirit working in us even when we feel weak. Titus 2:11–12 reminds us that grace doesn't just cover us—it teaches us. It trains us to say “no” to the things that pull us away from God and “yes” to a life of godliness and self-control. In John 12:26, Jesus says that those who serve Him must follow Him, and where He is, His servants will be also—there's power in proximity to Christ, and when we walk closely with Him, we are changed. And finally, Job 19:25 declares with unshakable faith, “I know that my Redeemer lives.” No matter the struggle or season, that truth stands firm: Jesus lives, and He is the one transforming us day by day. These scriptures challenge us to walk boldly, lean into grace, and live as people who are being daily renewed by God's power.

**This Week's Giving To Date:**  
05/05-05/15

**Living Hope Ministries : \$455.00**

**Thank you for your ongoing support!**

### Our Programs:

**Weekly:**  
Friday - Anchored Young Adults

**Bi-weekly:**  
Tuesday - Men's Meeting  
Wednesday - Women's Coffee Chat