

Wednesday Word 12/3/2025

Advent Week 1

Romans 15:13 *“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.”*

I heard a missionary to Peru share a story at a local church a few years ago as he was discussing the mindset acclimation most overseas evangelists need to make before going out into the mission field. He spoke of his first months in the mountains of Peru and how he was staying with a family from the local church. He was given a small cot and desk in the corner of their home and would use that as his launch point out into the hill country to speak and preach to the local people. According to him, this was his first overseas mission outreach, and he was very excited to share the good news of Jesus.

On one of his first nights in the home of these church members, he was using the restroom. As he finished up, he noticed the bathtub was full of water with the plug still in the drain. He decided he wanted to be helpful and pulled the plug to drain the water so there wouldn't be a residue ring around the tub. He then went back to his desk to prepare for the next day's outreach and preaching schedule.

A few minutes passed by, and he heard a commotion in the bathroom and then he heard the wife begin to weep and sob. As he rushed in to see what had happened, he learned that the water in the tub was the family's water supply for the entire month; another truck would not come again for 26 more days.

This missionary continued to share about the hopeless feeling that he realized he had caused on this family just because he didn't understand their way of life. He would not have realized that the tub was their water supply because it was not a familiar system to him, but to the family, they were in for a very hard month.

I believe hope is something that we as Christians, and even American's take for granted because we have rarely known hopelessness. If you're like me, your eternal hope has been rooted in Christ since birth and even when I turned my back on him, I always had the internal reminder that he was available.

So how do we present hope to a hopeless world? How do we live in a way that those whom God has called us to influence see that we have a hope that cannot be shaken. Does our attitude reflect this? Do our words bring life to others? Do our habits display that we have living water welling up inside our hearts?

Hope is lacking in the world around us and yet we are called to spread a living hope throughout our families, our communities, and our circle of influence. Let's consider these things and ask the Holy Spirit to activate the living hope inside of us to show the world!

I love you and God loves you!

Pastor Eric Lundberg