

HOPE

IN

CRISIS



Nobody ever said life was fair or easy.

This may be the most difficult time in your life. The confusion and hurt raise many questions.

### **WHY DID THIS HAPPEN TO ME?**

### **WHY DO BAD THINGS HAPPEN TO GOOD PEOPLE?**

There are no simple answers. But the lesson learned by a man named Job can help.

Job once had everything. He may have been the world's richest man. His wealth did not protect him from tragedy. Disasters destroyed all of his possessions. Seven sons and three daughters also died.

Then Job's health failed. In the midst of multiple crises and affliction, Job's wife said to him, "Are you still holding on to your integrity? Curse God and die."

*(Job 2:9)*

But Job wasn't looking for the easy way out. He said to his wife, "Shall we accept good from God, and not trouble?"

*(Job 2:10)*

Job asked some tough questions. The toughest question was how to remain faithful to God when God seemed so far away.

"Where then is my hope?  
Who can see any hope for me?"

*(Job 17:15)*

## HOPE IN CRISIS

God does not abandon people in crisis. But anger sets in following disaster, and people often abandon God because they lose hope.

### **IS THIS HOW YOU FEEL?**

If you have ever placed your faith in Jesus Christ you have hope.

“In His great mercy He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade—kept in heaven for you.”

*(1 Peter 1:3-4)*

### **WHY IS JESUS CHRIST THE LIVING HOPE?**

“For God so loved the world  
that He gave His one and only Son,  
that whoever believes in Him shall not  
perish but have eternal life.”

*(John 3:16)*

Because God loved us,  
He gave us His son as our hope  
of salvation.

### **WHY DID CHRIST DIE?**

“We all, like sheep, have gone astray,  
each of us has turned to his own way;  
and the Lord has laid on Him  
the iniquity of us all.”

*(Isaiah 53:6)*

Christ died because of our sins.

### WHY IS CHRIST'S DEATH IMPORTANT TO YOU?

Sin separates you from God.  
You cannot establish a  
relationship with God  
on your own.

“For all have sinned and fall short  
of the glory of God.”  
*(Romans 3:23)*

“Jesus answered, ‘I am the way and the  
truth and the life. No one comes to the  
Father except through me.’”  
*(John 14:6)*

Because Christ died for your sins, it is  
through Him that you come to God.  
To receive the hope of salvation  
you must receive Christ.

### **HOW DO YOU RECEIVE THIS LIVING HOPE?**

The most wonderful gift you will ever receive is absolutely free.

“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.”

*(Ephesians 2:8-9)*

### **HOW DO YOU RECEIVE CHRIST?**

You receive Christ through prayer.

### **WHAT IS PRAYER?**

Prayer is talking with God.

Talk to God and make your commitment of faith in Christ.

## HOPE IN CRISIS

A prayer of confession and commitment helps you do several things God asks you to do.

Admit that you have sinned.

“If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.”

*(1 John 1:9)*

Tell God that you believe Christ died for your sins.

“But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”

*(Romans 5:8)*

### **INVITE CHRIST INTO YOUR LIFE.**

“Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and

opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me.”

*(Revelation 3:20)*

### **MAKE A LIFETIME COMMITMENT TO CHRIST.**

“But if serving the Lord seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, . . . But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.”

*(Joshua 24:15)*

Your prayer might be like this:

Dear God,

Please forgive me for the sin in my life. Thank you for Jesus who came to earth and died for my sins. I accept your free gift of grace and invite Jesus to come into my life. He is the hope of my salvation. From this day on, I will live for Christ. Amen.

### WHERE DO I GO NOW?

To grow in your commitment  
to Christ:

1. Talk to other Christians.
2. Find a church that will affirm your decision.
3. Tell the pastor about your decision.
4. Ask to be baptized.

When the apostle Paul led the Philippian jailer to make a commitment to Christ in Acts 16:30-34, they set an example for you.

“At that hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds; then immediately he and all his family were baptized.”

*(Acts 16:33)*

As you begin to grow in your new faith, be prepared to share with others the hope that you now have.

“Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

*(Romans 5:1)*

**WILL YOU SHARE  
YOUR HOPE?**

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