

I. Romans 4:16-18

- A. Hope What it is and what it is not...
 - 1. What it is: Expectation, Refuge, Security, Trust, Confidence
 - 2. What it is not: Wishful thinking, Waiting on God

B. *Hebrews* 11:1

- 1. "Faith is the substance of things earnestly expecting; it is the proof of things vou cannot see."
- 2. Abraham believed God (difference from believing in God).
 - **Romans 4:3** "Abraham believed God and it was counted unto him for righteousness."
 - Message Bible (Romans 4:17-18) "Abraham was first named father and then became a father because he dared to trust God to do what only God could do; raise the dead to life, with a word make something out of nothing. When everything was hopeless, Abraham believed anyway, deciding to live not on the basis of what he saw he couldn't do but on what God said he would do."

II. Where is your hope?

A. *Jeremiah* 17:5-8

- 1. Too many people, too many promises, too many disappointments...
- 2. God never disappoints and He is always on time!
- 3. Here is the key: God needs more from you so He can do more through you!
- 4. The moment we realize that the world has nothing for us, that's when our victory begins: *II Chronicles 32:7-8*

B. *Proverbs* 13:12

- 1. Deferred Prolonged or Delayed
- 2. Remember, the enemy comes for your hope...he comes to bring discouragement in the fight!
 - When you are planting the seed, you cannot physically see the fruit.
 - When you are planting the Word (for your health, marriage, children), at times, the tree appears bear...
 - This is when you rest on the Word, Rest on His commandment "Don't be weary in well doing, for we shall reap if we faint not."