



# EAGLE'S NEST NEWS

DECEMBER 2022



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## Welcome

Hey Guys!

Welcome to your December edition of ENN. Christmastime is here, a joyful season, full of gladness and laughter and hope. This time of year, we are celebrating of the birth of God's son Jesus. We do this by attending church, singing carols and the giving gifts to others, just as God gave us the gift of his Son.

In this edition, we will be talking about HOPE, which is one of the many blessings God gives to His children through Jesus Christ.

Be sure to enjoy.

Love you loads & Merry Christmas,

**The ENN Team**

# THE BIRTH OF Christmas



**T**he date was 25 December 2099. For centuries life seemed hopeless and had been so hard. Today, Taiwo and Kehinde woke up to worldwide excitement. Was it gossip or truth? The buzz was all over the radio, news, and social media: "unto us a child is born." The news reporter screamed at the top of her voice: "it has finally come true." There were pictures everywhere with headlines: "17-year-old virgin called Mary gives birth to God's Son and calls his name JESUS!"

After a full day at school, 10-year-old twins Taiwo and Kehinde came home to find their parents glued to the news. People who called themselves "wise men" were speaking. "We have seen the baby Jesus, born at the Premier Inn. We switched on our sat nav at the start of a long journey, but God led us here by an extremely bright star that shone like a diamond in the sky."

"Mum, Dad, what's happening?"

Asked Taiwo,

"It's literally gone viral!" said Kehinde. "What are they talking about?"

Dad answered, "The prophet Isaiah in chapter 7 verse 14 predicted that a pure young woman will give birth to God's Son."

"Isaiah 9:6 also foretold that a child with many special names will be

born."

"The Prophet Micah again said in chapter 5 verse 2 that Jesus will be born in Bethlehem.

Mum and Dad then explained that when they were young, their grandparents taught them those Bible verse. "Men of God predicted this day would come, when a baby would be born to a pure young woman. The child will eventually become a man and die on a cross to save us from our sin."

The twins were gobsmacked! Kehinde broke the silence, "Will this mean that after Jesus dies, people will no longer have to confess their sins to a priest?"

"Exactly!" answered mum.

"Do you know what else is good?" asked Dad, the Prime Minister has declared today, 25th December, a public holiday. It will be called CHRISTMAS DAY.

"What's that?" asked Taiwo.

"From now on it will be a yearly celebration, about the birth of Jesus Christ our Saviour."

"Yay!!" shouted the twins, "THANK YOU GOD for Christmas holiday and for the birth of Jesus, bringing salvation, healing, hope, and happiness!"



Then after her baby is born,  
name him Jesus, because  
he will save his people  
from their sins."  
Matthew 1:21 (CEV)



## Prayer

Father, thank you for sending  
me the most precious gift,  
your Son Jesus Christ.  
Thank you for His birth and for  
allowing him to sacrifice his life  
for me and the whole world.  
In Jesus Name, Amen!



# hope

According to the Dictionary

One dull, cold December morning, Peter and Ruky were on their way to school in mum's car. Then this conversation began ...

**Peter:** It's too cold this morning; I hope the weather gets warmer soon.

**Ruky:** I hope so too, but I doubt it. It was really cold yesterday, and the weather report said....

**Mum:** Hang on a minute, interrupted mum. When you said, you hope it gets warmer, do you mean that you are expecting the weather to be better or are you just saying that?

**Peter:** Well, I guess.... I'm not sure really.

**Ruky:** But the weather report said it will only get colder this week....

**Mum:** I remember that "hope" is one of the key words in the reading book we were reading yesterday, and as your test is coming up, you need to know the right way to use that word.

Most people use the word "hope" when they are wishing for a

particular thing to come true, usually when they are expecting something good. Peter, please check your dictionary for the meaning.

After a moment ...

**Mum:** Have you found it?

**Peter:** Yes, mum.

**Mum:** Please read it out.

**Peter:** The Oxford dictionary says hope is the "belief that something you want will happen".

**Ruky:** I found another definition of hope.

**Mum:** Ok Ruky, please read it.

**Ruky:** The Cambridge dictionary says hope is "to want something to happen or to be true".

**Mum:** Fantastic! Those are two dictionary meanings of hope. Can you see that both definitions help us to understand that hope is when we are looking forward to seeing something happen; especially something good, just like how you both look forward to the weather becoming warmer during the day. However, apart from the dictionary

synonyms for

## HOPE

noun

desire  
ambition  
assumption  
dream  
expectation  
longing



power thesaurus

meaning, as Christians we also have the Bible hope, in which we believe God's promises and we eagerly look forward to God making His promises happen in our lives.

Continue to hope in those good promises of God and they will happen soon, in the name of Jesus.

## Memory Verse

"Our hope is certain ... It is strong and secure."  
Hebrews 6:19

## Prayer

Dear God, we thank you for loving us and that you are always with us. We thank you for the hope we have in you. Help us to live our best life in you, in Jesus' name, Amen

# Natural Hope vs Bible Hope

**J**oe was studying in the room when he heard a knock on his door. "Come in," he said in his usual gentle manner. The door opened and his younger brother John was standing there with a sad look on his face. John was hoping that his friend from next door, Jake, would play football with him on the playground out the back that Saturday but was sad when he did not show up. "I was really looking forward to hanging out with Jake".

Joe went over to John and put an arm around him "I'm sorry to hear that bro, I'm sure there must be a reason Jake didn't come out. I can come and play with you instead if you want." John smiled at his big brother, "Really!" "Sure," said Joe. So, they went out and had an awesome kickabout in the courtyard.

John was disappointed because he had hoped he would be able to play with his friend, but things changed, and it didn't happen. Natural hope is based on what we expect from people and things that can change. But Bible hope is different, it is based on our expectations of

someone who never changes - God.

Two people in the Bible who showed Bible hope were: Abraham: God told him to leave his father's land and promised that he would become the Father of a great Nation. But Sarah, Abraham's wife did not have any children. Because Abraham hoped in God, Sarah later had a son in her old age as God had promised. *Romans 4: 18-21 (NLT)*

Joseph: God showed him through dreams that he would be great, but sadly he became a slave in an Egyptian home and later he became a prisoner. While he was in prison, Joseph looked to God and years later he became the Prime minister of Egypt. His dream happened. *Genesis 40 - 41*

So, like John & Joe in our earlier story, when we turn our hope from things that can fail us to God who is unchanging, we end up with great joy and we are never disappointed.

*Psalm 121:1-2* (International Children's Bible) says: I look up to the hills. But where

does my help come from? 2 My help comes from the Lord. He made heaven and earth.

*Psalm 42:11 NLT* says Why am I discouraged? Why is my heart so sad? I will put my hope in God! I will praise him again— my Savior and my God!

## Memory Verse

And our hope for you [our confident expectation of good for you] is firmly grounded [assured and unshaken...]  
*2 Corinthians 1:7a (AMP)*

## Prayer

Heavenly father, thank you that our hope in you and your promises is secure, firm and unshaken. We have a confidence expectation in you and your great plans for me in Jesus' name. Amen

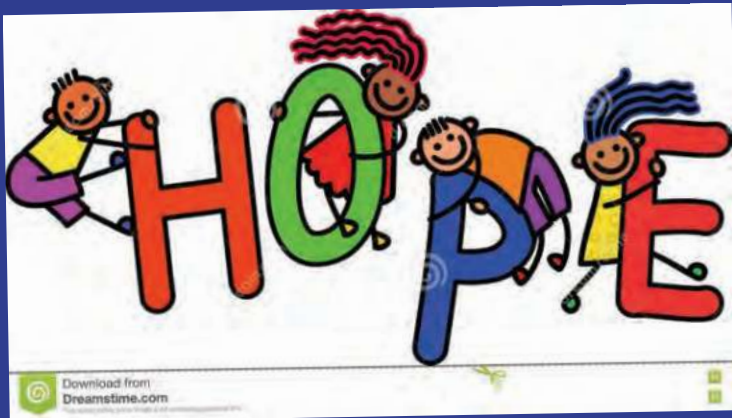


# WHAT IS BIBLE HOPE?

The dictionary describes hope as “wanting something to happen,” for example: “I hope I get a bike for Christmas.” Or “I hope my dad lets me go to the park with my friends.” This hope is not bad in itself (it’s a wish), but it is not based on the Word of God.

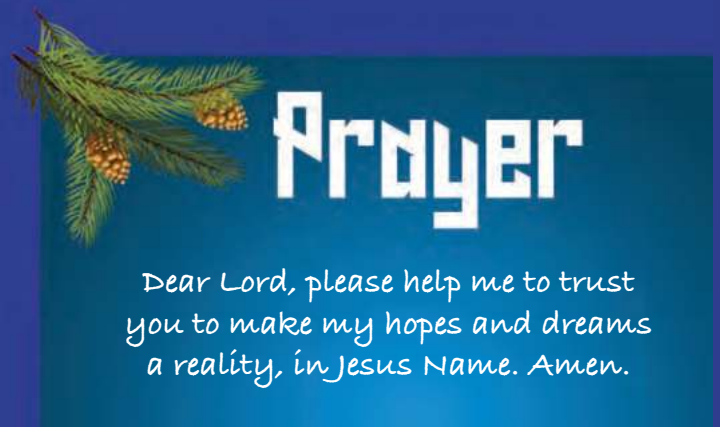
Bible hope is real hope which can only be received from God. Romans 15:13 (ESV) describes God as the God of hope. Having hope in what the Bible says can turn our wants or desires into a reality. You can use the following acronym to help you remember to always hope in God. (HOLD ON to God’s PROMISES EXPECTANTLY)

But isn’t hope the same as faith? I hear you ask. There is a difference! Hebrews 11:1 (CSB) says that faith is the reality of what is hoped for, the proof of what is not seen. Faith is for now and hope is for the future. Faith is trusting God that you have what you desire (hope for).




Once upon a time there was a very, rich couple. They were Christians and God had blessed them with all the beautiful things in life such as mansions, cars, jewelry, clothes, and businesses. They had everything money could buy but one thing was missing — the sound of children playing and running around their big house. The couple remained hopeful and trusted God’s promises. One day they were studying the Bible then boom, the word of God became clear to them. “Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so he became the father of many nations.” (Romans 4:18). They understood that if God could do it for Abraham and Sarah, He could also do it for them because “HE is the

same yesterday, today and forever.” (Hebrews 13:8). They prayed relying on the scriptures and hoped for God’s best in the future. Exactly 9 months later, both 54 years old and after being married for 20 years, their hope of having their own children became a reality. They gave birth to twins whom they named Abraham and Sarah. The couple’s hope for children in the future mixed with faith in God’s word resulted in their hope of having children. Our hope for the future should be mixed with faith in the promises of God’s word, the Bible.



# Hope on Planet Earth



One day, a man was walking along the beach when he spotted a boy far down by the seashore. The man noticed that the beach was covered with all kinds of sea animals (angelfish, starfish, goldfish, and others) that had been washed up by the tide. The sea animals were now stuck on the beach with no hope of returning to life in the sea. As the man watched the little boy from a distance, he noticed that the boy was picking up the fish and he was throwing them back into the sea, one by one.

He wondered, 'What in the world is this boy thinking by simply throwing back all these fish back into the deep blue sea, one at a time - there are thousands of them ashore?' Soon enough, the man finally walked along to meet the little boy.

"What are you doing? he asked"  
"I'm saving the fish," the boy answered.  
"But there are thousands of them. How can you save them? What difference can you make for these many fish?" the man exclaimed.  
The little boy picked up a starfish lying close to his feet and threw it back into the sea. Both he and the man watched as the fish splashed into the water.

The little boy then said, "You see, I have made a difference to that one!"  
The man was impressed. He admired the boy's efforts to save as many fish as he could from dying on the seashore. He bent down, picked up an angelfish, and joined the "rescue mission", one splash at a time.

Now you see, sometimes our hopes and dreams look so big that they seem impossible to achieve in life. However, we should always keep our hope alive in God to help us achieve what He has planned for us. The story of this boy and the many fish teaches us that we can all make a difference to

the world. No matter how big a problem may look and no matter how small our actions may seem, just like the little boy, we can change the world, little by little.

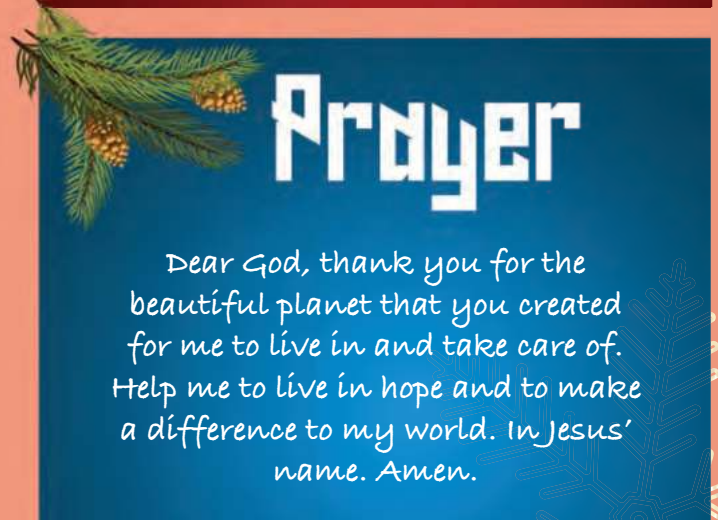
You know, the Bible tells us that the world was created by God for all of us to enjoy and God wants us to take good care of it. As much as there was hope for the fish when they were thrown back into the sea, there is hope for your life's desires and expectations, so long as our plans agree with what God showed you in His Word and by His Holy Spirit.

"But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not faint." Isaiah 40:31.



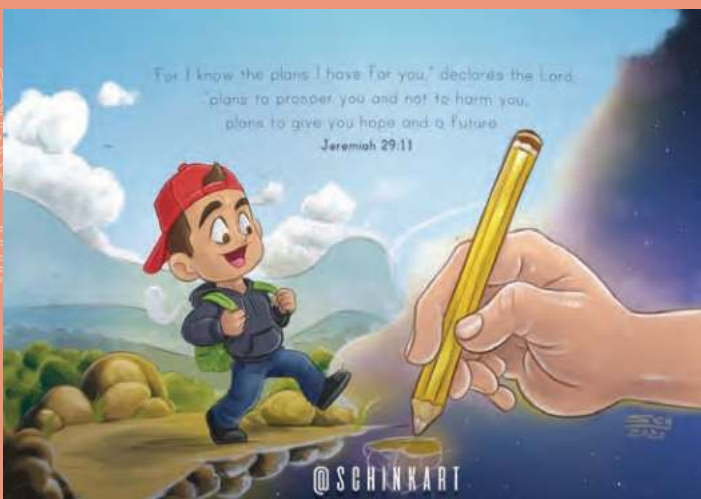
## Memory Verse

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future". Jeremiah 29:11



## Prayer

Dear God, thank you for the beautiful planet that you created for me to live in and take care of. Help me to live in hope and to make a difference to my world. In Jesus' name. Amen.





# HOPE BEYOND THIS LIFE

**C**arol was so sad; she and her family have just returned from her grandmother's funeral. Already Carol was missing her grandmother, she remembered all the fun things she did with her when she was alive. But now the thought that she would never see her again was heart-breaking for her.

As young children, it may be difficult to imagine what it means to go to heaven one day when you are very old. Perhaps like Carol, you have lost a loved one with whom you used to have so much fun together.

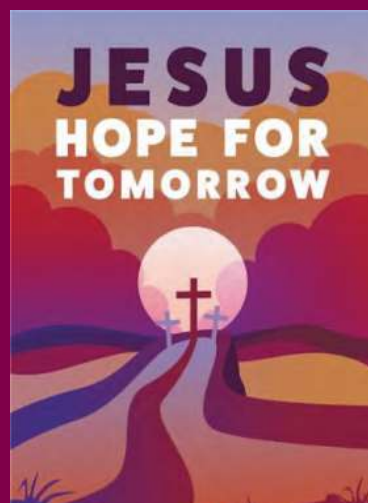
While we are here on earth, our life is all about living for God and enjoying the benefits of being his child and having our family around us. We go to church, meet our friends, sing and dance in Sunday school. We enjoy all the wonderful gifts and talents he has blessed us with.

We have so much peace and fulfilment that we cannot imagine another life.

But no matter how much fun we are having here on earth, a day will come and our life on earth will be over.

**1 Corinthians 15:19 (CEV)** says "If our hope in Christ is good only for this life, we are worse off than anyone else."

This verse reminds us that we should not just be very happy here on earth, because of all the many blessings God has given to us to enjoy with our family and friends. The good news is that as Christians, we can trust Jesus to come back for us and lead us into a new and even better life after



death. This is our hope beyond this world. We should all be excited about going to Heaven because we will be with

God for eternity. In **John 14:2-3 (TLB)**, Jesus said, "There are many homes up there where my Father lives, and I am going to prepare them for your coming. When everything is ready, then I will come and get you, so that you can always be with me where I am...."

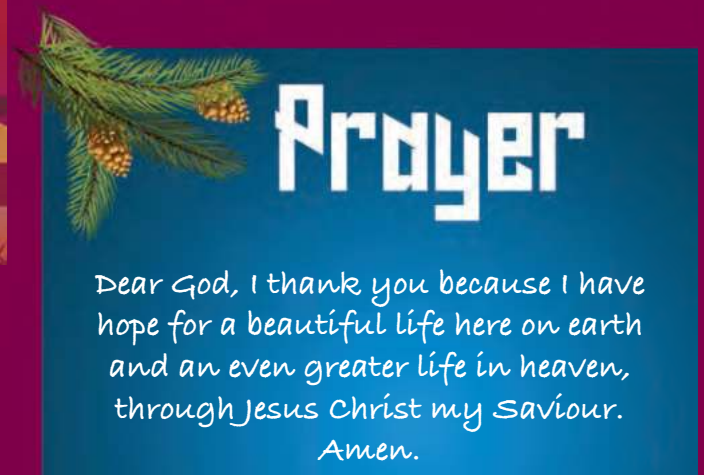
Can you imagine?! Jesus is getting a beautiful home ready for you in heaven. Heaven is the 'final home' of Christians, this is where Carol will meet her grandmother again. It will be a beautiful reunion because then, they will be together forever!



**Memory Verse**

There are many rooms in my Father's house. I wouldn't tell you this, unless it was true. I am going there to prepare a place for each of you. 3 After I have done this, I will come back and take you with me. Then we will be together.

John 14:2 (CEV)



**Prayer**

Dear God, I thank you because I have hope for a beautiful life here on earth and an even greater life in heaven, through Jesus Christ my Saviour.

Amen.



## SALVATION PRAYER

If you want to have real hope, invite Jesus into your heart today! Say this prayer:  
Dear God, thank you for sending Jesus to die for my sin. Jesus, please come and live in my heart from today, I ask you to be my Lord and Saviour. Fill me with your Holy Spirit and help me to live my life for you.  
In Jesus' Name, Amen.

## LINKS

<https://youtu.be/dLH4mYbseI4> - The Christmas story as told by kids

<https://youtu.be/3Nv-Fj816Vs> - Kids Perform an Accurate Nativity Play

<https://youtu.be/uJH0vj7ZhZ4> - true hope

<https://youtu.be/1V5j-77nQgM> - what does the bible mean by hope

<https://youtu.be/zh9QaH-qJkM> - Douglas (hope in Jesus)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EvDD7-Dbrbc&feature=youtu.be> - Finding hope in the storm

<https://www.youtube.com/shorts/UasmdjuKZFY> - 10 bible verses on hope

<https://youtu.be/wkt00DptsW0> - Paul and the Shipwreck

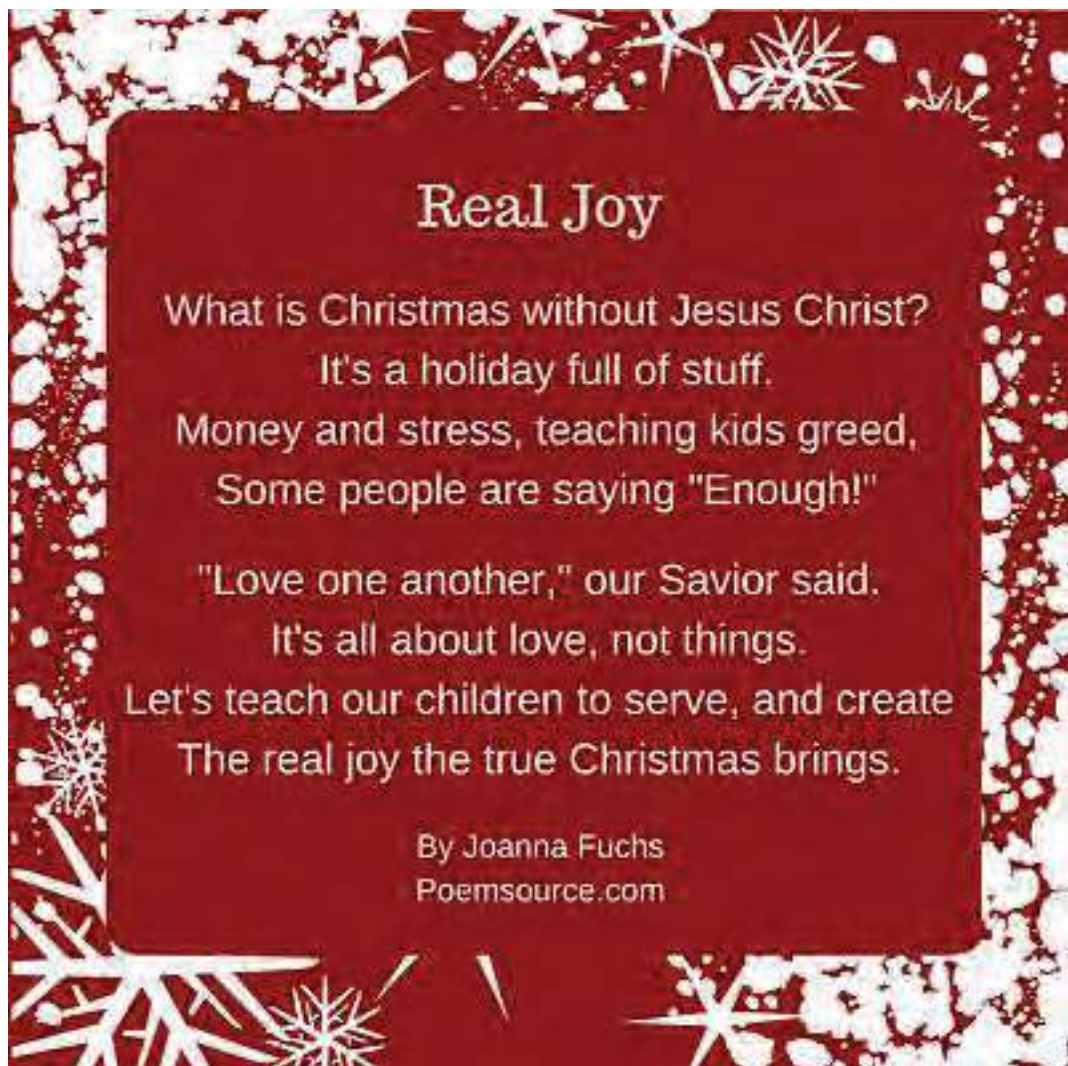
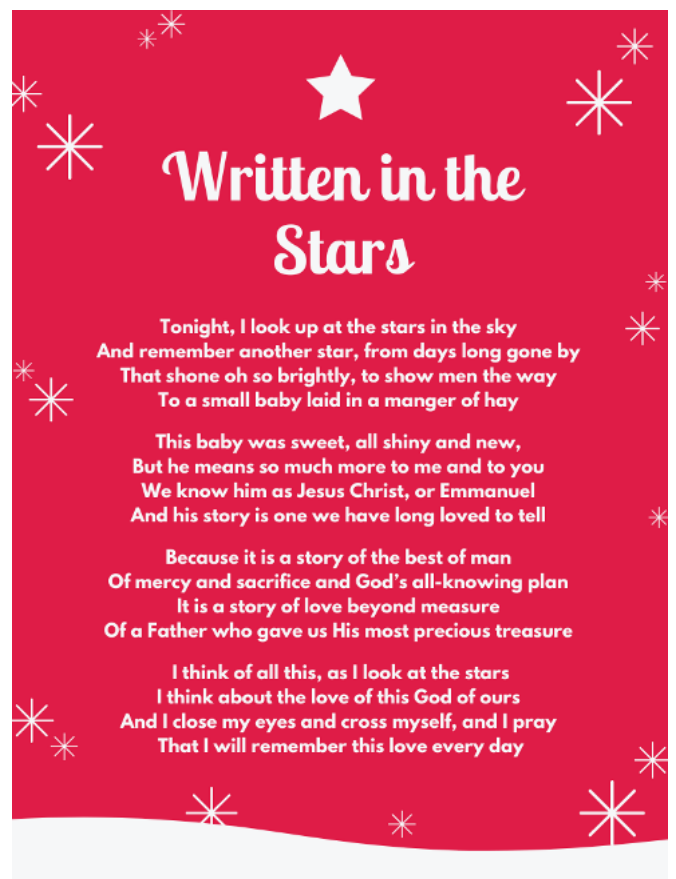
<https://youtu.be/3f0mYY50nQ> - Hope Assembly

[https://youtu.be/r\\_t5xitQjIc](https://youtu.be/r_t5xitQjIc) - HOPE - Song

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ve1SJdr0u6s> - God's Plan for our lives

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TCzktcoDunA> - Object Lesson, Jeremiah 29:11





# WORDSEARCH

**“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord,  
“plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give  
you hope and a future.”** — Jeremiah 29:11

P	O	I	U	H	U	O	Y	T	R	E	W	Q	A	A	S
X	M	B	N	Z	M	L	K	J	H	G	F	D	D	S	A
L	K	K	J	H	G	F	D	S	A	S	D	V	D	B	H
X	Y	N	D	I	M	W	X	D	Y	H	O	P	E	H	J
V	L	O	R	D	V	M	L	X	A	U	V	R	C	D	J
E	Q	W	F	E	H	S	C	I	T	T	S	J	L	J	L
D	R	K	C	Z	D	P	R	M	V	B	G	U	A	O	O
L	K	J	H	G	F	E	D	S	A	A	A	W	R	R	E
N	B	V	C	X	R	E	P	S	O	R	P	Z	E	M	R
M	L	D	E	E	A	Q	R	T	D	C	L	F	S	C	U
P	M	N	J	Y	C	B	C	D	E	E	A	E	M	M	T
O	S	S	F	J	L	G	W	R	U	X	N	X	F	N	U
O	I	U	Y	E	L	B	I	B	F	E	S	D	M	N	F
D	E	A	X	Q	L	N	M	V	R	H	H	T	S	E	A
Q	H	A	R	M	Z	T	U	I	E	P	F	E	F	S	M

*Find these words from this week's lesson and Bible verse:*

FUTURE

PLANS

LORD

YOU

HOPE

DECLARES

PROSPER

JEREMIAH

HARM

KNOW

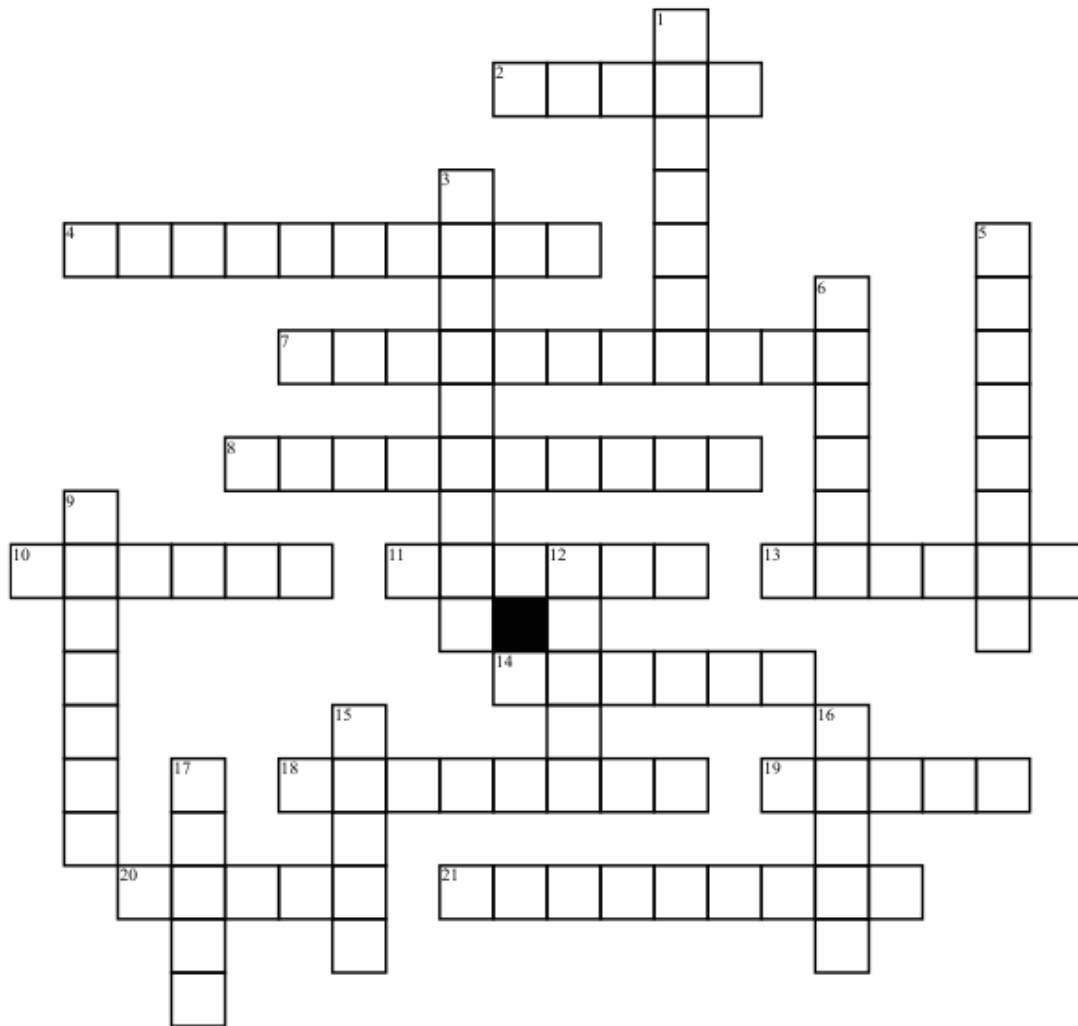
GIVE

BIBLE



# CROSSWORD

## Hope In Christ



### Across

2. We are \_\_\_\_\_ because of hope. Romans 8: 18-25  
 4. Faith is \_\_\_\_\_ Heb. 11:1  
 7. We are filled with these two things. (3 words total) Romans 15: 13  
 8. Kind, tender or mild-manner; softness of an action 1 Pet. 3: 15  
 10. Hope of Salvation symbol 1 Thess. 5: 8  
 11. Symbol for hope Hebrews 6: 19-20  
 13. Too many people rely on or strive for this today. 1 Timothy 6:17  
 14. A very particular type of hope 1 Peter 1: 3-5

18. God did this before the beginning of time. Titus 1:2

19. What we (or animals) do when we become extremely thirsty. We should do this for God too. Psalms 42: 1-5

20. What we are currently doing, hopefully patiently (plural) Psalms 130: 5

21. We long for THIS Psalms 119: 81

### Down

1. We all want people to do this when they see us because of our hope in Christ Psalms 119: 74

3. Without error or fault; reliable and constant Psalms 33: 16-19

5. Some people put their trust in these instead of God (today we call them cars) Psalms 20: 7

6. He is my \_\_\_\_\_ (another word for shelter) Psalms 119: 114

9. We are all this kind of person Psalms 119: 49

12. We might become THIS if we put our trust in Him Titus 3: 7

15. Do as our ancestors did Ps. 22: 4-5

16. Blessed are those who help this person's God. Ps. 146: 3-5

17. THIS will be brought to you when Jesus Christ is revealed at his coming. 1 Peter 1: 13

# CREATIVE Corner

CREATIVE CORNER

*You may be weak,*

***But JESUS is Strong!***

Build your life  
on the sure foundation of Jesus.

For Jesus is  
the **Rock of Faith**,  
the **Rock of Hope**, and  
the **Rock of Strength**  
that you can depend on!

In every situation, look to the Lord,  
and He will take away  
your weaknesses,  
your doubts and  
your fears.

It is in the courage you get from His promises  
that you will find your strength,  
that you will find your faith.

Then when the storms of life come,  
you will be standing on  
the sure foundation of

***Jesus, the Rock!***

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## My Hope Is In Jesus Christ

Through life I've sang Salvation's song  
I've had my ups and downs  
I've tried my best to do no wrong  
But still I've raised some frowns

I love my God with heart and soul  
Though still I feel some pain  
Christ washed me clean He made me whole  
I'm free and born again

By grace, I'm in Salvation's hand  
In Christ my life is new  
Through faith I've learned to understand  
That Jesus' love is true

Within my Lord I'm more than glad  
We talk both night and day  
I seek His joy when feeling sad  
And for His peace I pray

I'm growing old my hair is white  
My blood is running thin  
But praise the Lord for giving Light  
And freeing me of sin

The world may say my life is through  
Now soon I'll see my grave  
Yet while I'm here I'll share with you  
That Christ is here to save

Although of aged flesh and bone  
Of death I've no more fear  
For Jesus changed this heart of stone  
And came to dwell in here

Upon the Lord we can depend  
Through Him we learn to cope  
I'll stay in Christ until the end  
In Him! I've placed my hope.

*Michael P. Johnson*

# Build a Life of Hope with Jesus!

**Be excited**  
that His promises are spoken to you!

Share your life with Jesus.  
Walk with Him in hopefulness,  
and you will know  
that His promises are yours!

You can have the hope  
of a more abundant life  
by walking closer to Jesus!

For He has promised,  
"If ye abide in Me,  
I will abide in you." Jn. 15: 4,7

Then build a life of hope.  
Get excited about your life!  
Get excited about Jesus!  
For His promises are yours,  
as you walk with Him ...

## In Hopefulness!

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# HOLD FAST

## TO THE HOPE YOU HAVE IN JESUS!

Instead of  
worrying about tomorrow,  
worrying about what you can not do, or  
worrying about what you can not see,  
    stay connected to the **Source**  
        of all power,  
        of all healing, and  
        of all hope,  
            by holding fast to Jesus!

Hold fast to His hand!  
Hold fast to His promises!  
    He is able to give you rest.  
    He is able to protect you.  
    He is able to keep  
        all that you commit to Him.

Instead of worrying all the time,  
    hold fast to the Source of all you need.

## ***HOLD FAST TO JESUS!***

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# December

## *A Christmas Story*

- Day 1: Micah 5:2
- Day 2: Isaiah 7:14
- Day 3: Psalm 72:9-11
- Day 4: Jeremiah 31:15
- Day 5: Numbers 24:17
- Day 6: Isaiah 11:1-2
- Day 7: Luke 1:26-28
- Day 8: Luke 1:29-31
- Day 9: Luke 1:32-33
- Day 10: Luke 1:34-35
- Day 11: Luke 1:37-38
- Day 12: Luke 1:46-48
- Day 13: Luke 1:49-50
- Day 14: Luke 1:51-52
- Day 15: Luke 1:53-55
- Day 16: Luke 1:67-69
- Day 17: Luke 2:7
- Day 18: Luke 2:8-9
- Day 19: Luke 2:10-11
- Day 20: Luke 2:13-14
- Day 21: Luke 2:29-32
- Day 22: Luke 2:33-35
- Day 23: Matthew 2:1-2
- Day 24: Matthew 2:10-11
- Day 25: Matthew 2:16-18
- Day 26: John 1:1
- Day 27: John 1:4-5
- Day 28: John 1:14
- Day 29: John 1:15-16
- Day 30: 1 John 5:1
- Day 31: Romans 8:2-3

Kingdom Bloggers



## We'd love to hear from you!

Send your competition entries, comments and birthday shout outs to us at: [ENN@kicc.org.uk](mailto:ENN@kicc.org.uk)