

*Hope  
in the  
Lord*



*A Bible Study by  
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## Table of Contents

Words of Welcome .....	3
Where Does Your Faith Abide? .....	4
Foundations of Hope.....	5
Things Hoped For .....	6
Helmets and Anchors.....	7
Closing Thoughts.....	8



## Words of Welcome

Dear Sisters in Christ,

Right now having hope seems even more important than ever. So, I decided to do a word study of 'hope' in the Bible. Reading and studying God's Word gives me strength from the Scriptures. This, of course, made me think about what strength means. Reading the Scriptures comforts me but studying them helps makes me grow stronger. I found these definitions of strength (paraphrased):

- The capacity of an object to withstand great pressure
- The emotional qualities necessary in dealing with situations or events that are distressing or difficult

So...If I'm the *object* then the Scriptures can give me the capacity to withstand great pressure and help me deal with situations or events that are difficult, but only if I read and study God's Word and keep those words on my heart.

After my study of hope, I decided that I would share my notes and create some questions and activities to share with my sisters. My hope is that this study will benefit you as much as it has benefited me creating it.

May you be blessed as you read and study God's Word as I have been.



## Where Does Your Faith Abide?

Look at I Corinthians 13:13a: ...Now faith, hope, and love abide... (ESV) Some descriptions of 'abide' are to remain, continue, or stay. Isn't it comforting that faith, hope, and love remain for us? Faith, hope, and love have been given to us by God and will stay with always.

Describe 'hope' in your own words?	Definition from a dictionary or in your Bible.
How do the two definitions compare?	

Look at these three words. How would you describe each word? Draw a line to match the word and description.

Faith	Loyalty, belief, reliance
Hope	Regard with affection
Love	Confident expectation

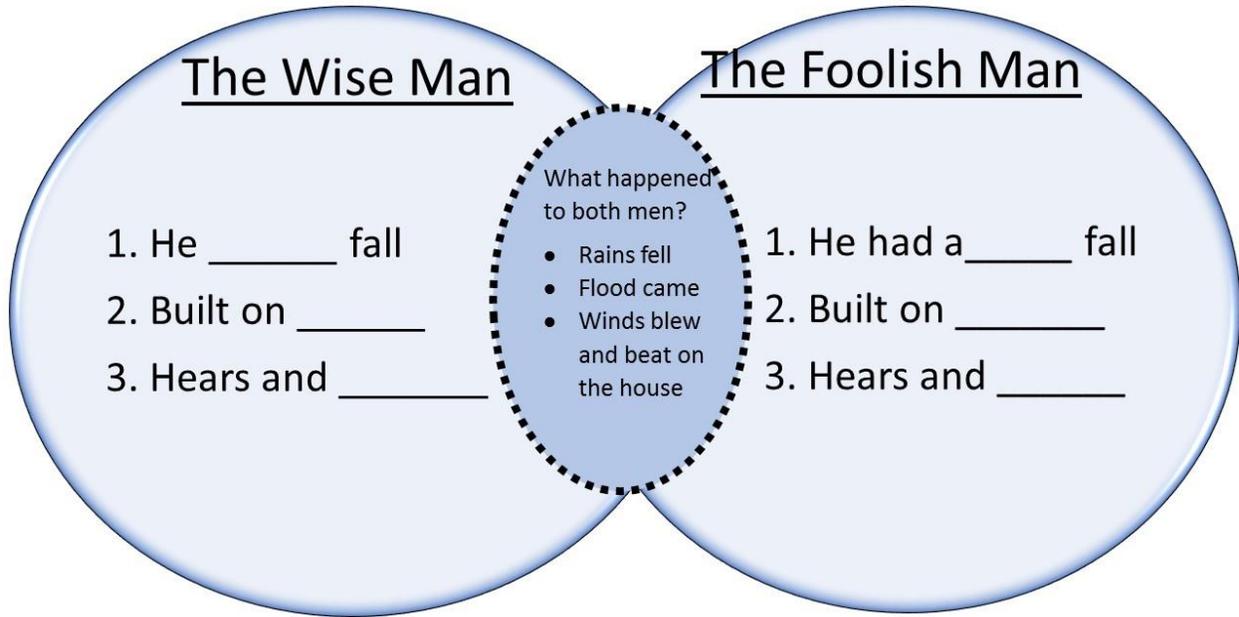
For this study, we're going to focus on hope. Hope is having the desire for something and to expect it to happen (verb) or to have a confident expectation (noun).

Take a few minutes to list some hopes that you have for yourself at home, at work, and in your spiritual life.



## Foundations of Hope

Have you ever heard the children's song, "The Wise Man Built His House Upon the Rock"? Read Matthew 7: 24-27 and fill in this chart.



What happened to both houses? Rain, flooding, winds, right? What made the difference between how the two houses were built? The foundation that their builders chose. The wise man hears and does, while the foolish hears but does not do the will of God. The wise man built on the Rock – the strongest foundation possible.

Let's think about the foundations of hope.

Read each of these verses and fill in the blanks.

Psalm 33:18 Behold, the eye of the LORD is on those who fear him, on those who \_\_\_\_\_.

Psalm 119: 74 Those who fear you shall see me and rejoice, because I have \_\_\_\_\_.

Psalm 119: 81 My soul longs for your salvation; I \_\_\_\_\_.

Romans 15:4 For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures \_\_\_\_\_.

I Timothy 1:1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by command of God our Savior and of \_\_\_\_\_.





## Things Hoped For

Let's delve into the Bible to learn more about hope by looking at three topics. Read each verse and write down a summary of the verse in your own words.

### Living a Christian Life

Ephesians 1:18

Ephesians 4:4

### Eternal Life

Colossians 1:5

Titus 1:2

Titus 2:13

I Peter 1:13



## Christ's Resurrection

Acts 23:6

Acts 24:15

I Peter 1:3



Write down your thoughts after reading these verses. What do these verses mean to you in your relationship with God?

## Helmets and Anchors

Some days I really feel like I need to wear a suit of armor. Do you ever have days like that? Some days are difficult to get through and some days seem impossible to get through. We need help and we need hope! These two verses encourage me that God gives me the hope I need each day.



But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation.  
I Thessalonians 5:8

...So that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us. <sup>19</sup> We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner place behind the curtain.

Hebrews 6:18-19



## Closing Thoughts

Let's close out our study by looking up three verses and answering a few questions.

Jeremiah 17:7

Why is the man blessed?

Where is his hope?

Romans 12:12

What should we rejoice in?

What should we be patient in?

What should we be constant in?

Hebrews 6:11

What should we have earnestness in?

What kind of assurance of hope should we have?

How long should we hope?



*Trust in the LORD.*

*Hope in the LORD.*

*Rejoice in hope.*

*Be patient.*

*Pray constantly.*

*Have the full assurance of hope until the end.*

