

**JESUS, OUR LIVING HOPE**  
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*“This letter is from Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus, appointed by the command of God our Savior and Christ Jesus, who gives us hope. I am writing to Timothy, my true son in the faith. May God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord give you grace, mercy, and peace.” (1 Timothy 1:1-2, NLT)*

*“In those days you were living apart from Christ. You were excluded from citizenship among the people of Israel, and you did not know the covenant promises God had made to them. You lived in this world without God and without hope.” (Ephesians 2:12, NLT)*

*“But now you have been united with Christ Jesus. Once you were far away from God, but now you have been brought near to him through the blood of Christ. For Christ himself has brought peace to us. He united Jews and Gentiles into one people when, in his own body on the cross, he broke down the wall of hostility that separated us.” (Ephesians 2:13-14, NLT)*

**1. God is the foundation of our Hope**

*“I pray that God, the source of hope, will fill you completely with joy and peace because you trust in him. Then you will overflow with confident hope through the power of the Holy Spirit.” (Romans 15:13, NLT)*

*“Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but a dream fulfilled is a tree of life.” (Proverbs 13:12, NLT)*

*“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead” (1 Peter 1:3, ESV)*

**2. Our Hope is in Christ**

*“Christ Jesus who gives us Hope” (1 Timothy 1:1, NLT)*

*“while we look forward with hope to that wonderful day when the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, will be revealed.”*  
(Titus 2:13, NLT)

### **3. We can be bold**

*“Since we have such a hope, we are very bold”*  
(2 Corinthians 3:12, ESV)

*“In your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.”*  
(1 Peter 3:15, ESV)

*“Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Christ.*

*And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said, “Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel.*

*And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him.*

*And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, “Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.*

*And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.”* (Luke 2:25-38, ESV)

*“For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. We look forward to Jesus’ return.”* (Romans 8:24-25, ESV)

*“Don’t let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God and trust also in me. There is more than enough room in my Father’s home, if this were not so, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? When everything is ready, I will come get you, so that you will always be with me where I am.”*  
(John 14:1-3, NLT)

## **Growthwork**

### **1. Recognize Jesus for who He is**

*“Who do You say I Am?”* (Matthew 16:15, ESV)

*“I am the way, the truth and the life, no one can come to the Father except through Me.”* (John 14:6, NLT)

### **2. Trust in Jesus for your salvation**

*“Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light”* (Matthew 11:28-30, ESV)

*“For the believer there is hope beyond the grave because Jesus Christ has opened the door to heaven for us by His death and resurrection.”*  
*-Billy Graham*