**RISE UP** in 2021

August 29, 2021

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**GO B.I.G.**

**BIG HOPE**



**GO B.I.G. - Bold In God**

*Now to* ***Him who is able*** *to do* ***far more abundantly*** *beyond all that we* ***ask*** *or* ***think****,* ***according to the power that works within us****, to Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever.* Amen. Ephesians 3:20–21

**What is the difference between faith and hope?**

Faith is not time bound whereas hope is faith in the future blessing, provision and promise of God. It is our confidence in the word of God, and whenever that word has reference to the future, **you can call our confidence in it hope**. Hope is faith in the future tense.

*Let us* ***hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering,*** *for* ***he who promised is faithful****. And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works …* Hebrews 10:23–24

**BIG Hope** Is not **hype**.

Hype is exaggerating somethings importance or benefit. orr being overly optimistic about the future.

***If in Christ we have hope in this life only***, we are of all people most to be pitied. 1 Corinthians 15:19

**BIG Hope** not only **desires** for God to do something **good** for the future — it **expects** it to happen.

The English word *Hope* is used many times in a way that seems like we are uncertain. “I don’t know, but I hope so.”

* ***elpise*** – Greek - strong expectations or expectation of what is sure
* ***tiqwâ*** – Hebrew – to look for, to hope, to trust in a strong rope,

What you think about your **future** will radically affect how you live **today**.

**Without Hope, we become …**

* **Despondent -** implies being in very low spirits due to a loss of hope and a sense of futility about continuing one’s efforts.
* **Despairing -** implies utter loss of hope and may suggest the extreme dejection that results.
* **Desperate -** implies such despair and loss as to make one resort to extreme measures.

**BIG Hope** is a **command.**

*As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty****, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches****,* ***but on God****, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy.* 1 Timothy 6:17

**BIG Hope** **transcends** this world.

*Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me?* ***Hope in God*** *…*  Psalm 42:5

*Hoping in God does not come naturally for sinners like us. We must preach it to ourselves, and preach diligently and forcefully, or we will give way to a* ***downcast*** *and* ***disquieted*** *spirit.* John Piper

**BIG Hope** **sustains** us in our Christian journey.

*Though we speak in this way, yet in your case, beloved,* ***we feel sure of better things****—things that belong to salvation. For God is not unjust so as to overlook your* ***work*** *and the* ***love*** *that you have shown for his name in* ***serving*** *the saints,* ***as you still do****. And we desire each one of you to show the same earnestness to have the* ***full assurance of hope until the end****, so that you* ***may not be sluggish****, but imitators of those who through* ***faith and patience inherit the promises****.* Hebrews 6:9–12

**BIG Hope** is like a **reservoir** of emotional strength.

*The war horse is* ***a false hope*** *for salvation, and by its great might it cannot rescue. Behold, the eye of the LORD is on those who fear him, on* ***those who hope in his steadfast love****, that he may deliver their soul from death and keep them alive in famine. Our soul waits for the LORD;* ***he is our help and our shield****. For our heart is glad in him, because* ***we trust*** *in his holy name. Let your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us, even as* ***we hope in you****.* Psalm 33:17–22

**BIG Hope** calls us to see the **world** differently.

*having the eyes of your hearts enlightened,* ***that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you****, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints,* Ephesians 1:18

*All our infirmities, whatever they are, are just opportunities for God to display his gracious work in us.* Charles Spurgeon

Let us all be **filled** with **BIG Hope**.

*May the* ***God of hope*** *fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit* ***you may abound in hope****.* Romans 15:13

*He delivered us from such a deadly peril, and he will deliver us.* ***On him we have set our hope*** *that he will deliver us again.* 2 Corinthians 1:10

**BIG Hope** is **infectious**.

*… always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you* ***for a reason for the hope that is in you*** *…* 1 Peter 3:15

**Cards of Encouragement** – let your hope bring hope to those who might have lost hope!