

## Hope For The Holidays Part 2: Fostering Hope

*(Proverbs 13:12 NIV) "Hope **deferred** makes the heart sick."*

*(Job 17:13 NIV) "Where then is my hope? Who can see any hope for me?"*

✓ **Hope is not wishful thinking.**

✓ **Hope is not blind optimism.**

✓ **Hope is not ambitious dreams.**

✓ **Hope is a confident expectation based on something solid.**

*(Hebrews 11:1 NIV) "Now faith is being **sure of what we hope for** and certain of what we do not see."*

### Fostering Hope

*(1 Timothy 6:17 NIV) "Command those who are rich [everyone of us says that's someone else] in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to **put their hope in God**, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment."*

#### 1. God's presence.

*(Psalm 62:5 NIV) "**Find rest**, O my soul, in God alone; my hope comes from him."*

*(Isaiah 40:31 NIV) "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 be faint."*

#### 2. God's promise.

*(Psalm 119:81 NIV) "My soul faints with longing for your salvation, but **I have put my hope in your word**."*

### 3. God's process.

*(Romans 5:2-4 NIV) "And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God. Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering **produces** perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope."*

### 4. God's purpose.

*(1 Timothy 4:14-15 NLT) "**Do not neglect** the spiritual gift you received through the prophecy spoken over you when the elders of the church laid their hands on you. **Give your complete attention** to these matters. **Throw yourself into your tasks** so that everyone will see your progress."*

### 5. God's place.

*(John 14:1-2 NIV) "**Do not let your hearts be troubled**. Trust in God; trust also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you."*