



## Sermon Notes

### Embracing Hope Part 18 – Identifying with Hope May 31, 2020

*I open my heart to receive from the Word of God  
God's promises are true  
And they are true for me*

**We identify with what we hope in.**

**We cannot hope in something if we cannot identify with it.**

2 Thessalonians 2:16

*<sup>16</sup> May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and by his grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope...*

Psalms 33:22

*<sup>22</sup> May your unfailing love be with us, LORD,  
even as we put our hope in you.*

1 John 5:19

*<sup>19</sup> We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one.  
"Satan doesn't own this world, but he has access to it. His influence is found everywhere – in government, education, entertainment, business, the family, ecclesiastical realms...everywhere! The mind that knows no better will receive what the world dispenses and believe that's all there is."*

Oswald Chambers

Matthew 26:35

*<sup>35</sup> But Peter declared, "Even if I have to die with you, I will never disown you."*

Matthew 16:13-18

*<sup>13</sup> When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?"*

*<sup>14</sup> They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets."*

*<sup>15</sup> "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?"*

*<sup>16</sup> Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God."*

*<sup>17</sup> Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. <sup>18</sup> And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.*

Jesus pointed Peter to his real identity.



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Because of God's grace, Peter's failures didn't change his real identity – they led him to it!!

**Sometimes we meet our destiny on the road we took to avoid it.**

**When we embrace hope, it points us to our real identity.**

**When we choose to listen to God's voice, and accept His love and grace, it gives us hope. We find ourselves in this hope, and we become who we were meant to be!**

Acts 3:1-10

Peter Heals a Lame Beggar

*<sup>1</sup> One day Peter and John were going up to the temple at the time of prayer—at three in the afternoon. <sup>2</sup> Now a man who was lame from birth was being carried to the temple gate called Beautiful, where he was put every day to beg from those going into the temple courts. <sup>3</sup> When he saw Peter and John about to enter, he asked them for money. <sup>4</sup> Peter looked straight at him, as did John. Then Peter said, "Look at us!" <sup>5</sup> So the man gave them his attention, expecting to get something from them.*

*<sup>6</sup> Then Peter said, "Silver or gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk." <sup>7</sup> Taking him by the right hand, he helped him up, and instantly the man's feet and ankles became strong. <sup>8</sup> He jumped to his feet and began to walk. Then he went with them into the temple courts, walking and jumping, and praising God. <sup>9</sup> When all the people saw him walking and praising God, <sup>10</sup> they recognized him as the same man who used to sit begging at the temple gate called Beautiful, and they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him.*

This man was stuck!

This man identified with his struggle!

The enemy wants us to identify with our struggle.

I am who I am because of Whose I am.

**Placing our hope in God points us to our real identity.**

