

Devotional

Hope Audit

April 4, 2021

Before we start to take a look at *how* the hope of the future in Jesus Christ impacts your future, let's be reminded *what* that hope is and how it comes to be. Use the following description of this hope throughout the week and read these passages of scripture to be reminded of the hope that Christ is giving you.

Luke 24:1-12, Colossians 2:6–15 and 3:1-4, and 1 Corinthians 15:53-58 (for more detail, also read verses 35-49)

The Hope – the Guarantee

The future is the full, eternal reign of Jesus Christ on earth.

Jesus will completely and forever rule when he physically returns to earth. Earth and heaven will be joined together – renewing the earth and putting everything as it should be in the Kingdom of God.

If you are a follower of the resurrected Jesus Christ, you are dead to sin and alive in Jesus, forgiven of your sin and sinfulness, *forever with Jesus* in heaven and on earth (now, after you die, and when you are resurrected and given an imperishable, renewed body).

Hope Audit

This hope audit on the next page will help you look at four areas of your life: your faith, your family life, your personal future and decisions, and your continuing formation as a person following Jesus. ***It is designed so that you will read, consider, and pray with each day's material with the hope that it stays with you and you reflect upon it and listen for the Holy Spirit throughout the day.*** There are a whole bunch of questions and not a lot of answers... it is a good audit like that. But considering these questions will open the door for the Holy Spirit to continue to work in your life.

You'll need to wrestle with what follows. There aren't any easy answers spoon-fed to you so you can simply "believe it" and go on with your day. If you want to talk or process through this, reach out to Pastor Seth: [pastorsethnormington @ gmail.com](mailto:pastorsethnormington@gmail.com) or call/text using our local area code + 236.2900 (full number hidden to help avoid spam).

Read, consider, pray, listen throughout the day...

Monday

Your Faith

What is the point of believing in Jesus? Think about what you might've said last week and consider what you would say today. If it hasn't changed, we'll assume you already knew everything that was said on Sunday. Hone your answer so that you can say it in three sentences or less.

Tuesday

Your Family – whoever you consider to be your family

What worries for you and your family, what attitudes towards your family, and what ways of acting with your family need to be cast off or transformed because of the guaranteed hope you have in Jesus?

Wednesday

Your Personal Future and Decisions

Look again at the summary of the hope on the opposite page. *What decisions/plans/dreams that you have made about the future – whether about tomorrow or 40 years from now – need to be reconsidered in light of the future God has planned for you?*

Thursday

Your Life as a Jesus Follower

God's plan for the future is that you will personally be with Jesus forever as his active disciple in heaven and on earth. *What needs to change about your approach to being a disciple of Jesus today knowing that you will be his disciple forever?*

Friday

Rest, Share, Rejoice, Commit

If you went through all that, you've gone on a tough but rewarding journey this week – a journey that will continue for some time. Rest in the Lord, share what you have discovered with others, rejoice in the goodness of God, and commit to being with Cooks Creek on this journey as we more deeply explore our hope for the future in the coming weeks. Praise be to the Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit!