

Church at Home Family Pack – 2nd August 2020

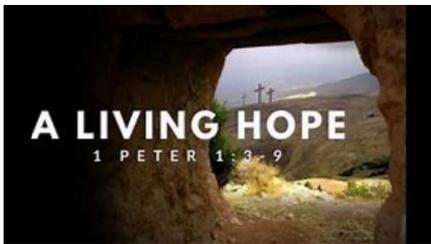
Join us for our online service, usual time of 10:30am on Sunday at www.ccwsm.org.uk
– “see” you there!

If you like, join in with the discussion of Facebook with our church family (@ccwsm)!

In some sections we make several suggestions of ideas. Some may be more appropriate to the people in your home than others. We’re not expecting you to do all of them (although you are very welcome to!). Choose the ones which best suit you and your family.

GATHER TOGETHER

A prayer to start –



Loving God,
No matter what happens, help us to focus on the Living Hope that we have from you through Jesus.
We have a glorious future!
Amen

Action reminder –

From the top of my head

(Touch head)

to the tips of my toes;

(Touch toes)

from the lobes of my ears

(Touch ear lobes)

to the end of my nose;

(Touch nose)

from my back, to my front

(Turn round)

to my wiggly fingers,

(stretch out arms and wiggle fingers)

God loves me!

(jump up and down)

READ TOGETHER

1 Peter 1: 3-12

International Children's Bible (ICB)



³ Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. God has great mercy, and because of his mercy he gave us a new life. He gave us a living hope because Jesus Christ rose from death. ⁴ Now we hope for the blessings God has for his children. These blessings are kept for you in heaven. They cannot be destroyed or be spoiled or lose their beauty. ⁵ God's power protects you through your faith, and it keeps you safe until your salvation comes. That salvation is ready to be given to you at the end of time. ⁶ This makes you very happy. But now, for a short time, different kinds of troubles may make you sad. ⁷ These troubles come to prove that your faith is pure. This purity of faith is worth more than gold. Gold can be proved to be pure by fire, but gold can be destroyed. But the purity of your faith will bring you praise and glory and honour when Jesus Christ comes again. ⁸ You have not seen Christ, but still you love him. You cannot see him now, but you believe in him. You are filled with a joy that cannot be explained. And that joy is full of glory. ⁹ Your faith has a goal, to save your souls. And you are receiving that goal—your salvation.

¹⁰ The prophets searched carefully and tried to learn about this salvation. They spoke about the grace that was coming to you. ¹¹ The Spirit of Christ was in the prophets. And the Spirit was telling about the sufferings that would happen to Christ and about the glory that would come after those sufferings. The prophets tried to learn about what the Spirit was showing them. They tried to learn when those things would happen and what the world would be like at that time. ¹² It was shown to them that their service was not for themselves. It was for you. They were serving you when they told about the truths you have now heard. The men who preached the Good News to you told you those things. They did it with the help of the Holy Spirit that was sent from heaven. These are truths that even the angels want very much to know about.

New International Version (NIV)

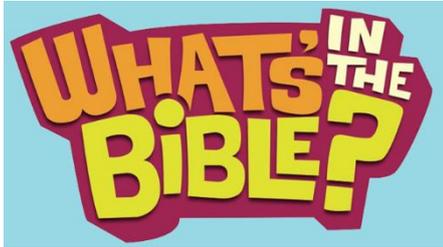
³ Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you, ⁵ who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶ In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. ⁷ These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honour when Jesus Christ is revealed. ⁸ Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, ⁹ for you are receiving the end result of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

¹⁰ Concerning this salvation, the prophets, who spoke of the grace that was to come to you, searched intently and with the greatest care, ¹¹ trying to find out the time and circumstances to which the Spirit of Christ in them was pointing when he predicted the sufferings of the Messiah and the glories that would follow. ¹² It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves but you, when they spoke of the things that have now been told you by those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven. Even angels long to look into these things.

WATCH TOGETHER



Sal the Spotted-Tail Salamander talks about **HOPE** -
<https://youtu.be/39TYgR9IE-U>



What is **SALVATION**? – What's in the Bible?
<https://youtu.be/bPiJlG9oiw>

TALK TOGETHER

A Living Hope

The aim of Peter's letter is to offer encouragement to Christians who were suffering as a result of being in Rome – and all the persecutions that they faced there. He wanted to encourage them to stay firm in their faith in these times of suffering and to remember all the things that they have to be grateful for, because of their belief in Christ.

Peter's first letter begins by talking about the **living hope** that Christians will always find in a relationship with God, and the benefits of Salvation found through the sacrifice of Christ. Biblical hope isn't a wishful optimism like "I hope it won't rain later". It's a certain belief in the things we can't see but know that God will do for us because of Jesus.

Verse 4 says that we're hoping for blessings (the good things God gives us) which are kept in heaven for us. What kind of blessings does Peter talk about in these verses?

PLAY TOGETHER



The New Testament was originally written in Greek. Did you know that in Greek our Bible reading today is one long sentence! Yes, one sentence from the beginning of verse 3 all the way to the end of verse 12! Peter has so much to say about his hope in Jesus he just keeps going and going and going

See who can come up with the longest sentence about all the good things we have because of our faith and hope in Jesus. You have to say it without pausing for breath. As soon as you stop to breathe someone else gets to have a go.

MAKE TOGETHER

'GOD gives me HOPE through Jesus' Cross



You will need:

Card (you can use a box from your recycling), paper, pens, pencils, a hole punch and some wool/string.

On the card, draw and cut out a cross shape like the one in the photo.

Cut out 6 paper squares (one for each letter) making them slightly smaller so that you can see the card 'border' around them. Stick them on to the cross.

Decorate each square with the letters making HOPE and GOD cross over. We used rainbow colours to make 6 more smaller squares and then put the letters on white paper. (You can use whatever you have available) At the bottom of the cross write or print the words 'through Jesus'. Make a hole at the top and thread through the string or wool. Hang it up as a reminder of the Bible Passage.

Verse 3 says He gave us a living hope because Jesus Christ rose from death.

SING TOGETHER

My Hope is in the Lord – *Lifetree Kids*: <https://youtu.be/tJePCzTaQo4>

In you Alone – *Lifetree Kids*: <https://youtu.be/ymvSuZXgoLs>

More than gold – *Judikay*: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AEGjZ2ERKnU>

Living Hope – *Phil Wickham* <https://youtu.be/u-1fwZtKJSM>

REFLECT TOGETHER

Hopes for our lives....

- How realistic are your hopes for your life?
- Can you definitely achieve them, or are they reliant on what other people do and say and the impact that their actions or words have on your life?

For Christians, the hope that we receive from our belief in God, should shape our lives. Even when things get hard, Christians have the hope and comfort of a loving God who we know will support, love and teach us throughout the hard times. We also have the hope that we receive from fellow Christians praying for us and the knowledge that we are not alone, as God has given us the Holy Spirit to protect and guide us.

We all have hopes for our lives, but the **living hope** that you can have in God is something so much more powerful and achievable in your life.

How does that make you feel?

PRAY TOGETHER

Peter says that in this life there will be things that make us sad and he wants to encourage us at those times to remember all the wonderful things we have because of our faith in Jesus. One of those amazing things is that God is with us all the time.

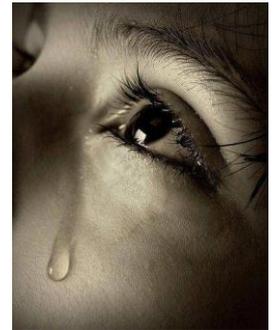
If you are feeling sad, pour some water into a bowl. Put your hands in the bowl and as you let the water run off your fingers imagine they are your tears. Psalm 56:8 says this:

*You've kept track of my every toss and turn through the sleepless nights.
Each tear entered in your ledger, each ache written in your book.
(The Message)*

God knows each tear you cry. He knows the things that make you sad, and he is with you in your sadness.

As you let the run water run over your hands, imagine God taking a note of each tear you cry and feeling your sadness with you.

When you're ready, dry your hands and imagine God drying your tears.



DO IT TOGETHER

Rejoice and be happy – we have a glorious future!

The Message puts it like this:

1 Peter 1:3-5



³⁻⁵ What a God we have! And how fortunate we are to have him, this Father of our Master Jesus! Because Jesus was raised from the dead, we've been given a brand-new life and have everything to live for, including a future in heaven—and the future starts now! God is keeping careful watch over us and the future. The Day is coming when you'll have it all—life healed and whole.

Read this every day this week and thank God that no matter what we are going through we have this Living Hope!

Email: family.ministry@ccwsm.org.uk