

HOPEcommunity.

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Opportunity Abounds!

February 7, 2016

Matthew 5 NIV:11-16

¹¹ “Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me.

¹² Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Salt and Light

¹³ “***You are the salt of the earth.*** But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.

¹⁴ “***You are the light of the world.*** A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

Philippians 2:12-16 NIV

Do Everything Without Grumbling

¹² Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³ ***for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.***

¹⁴ ***Do everything without grumbling or arguing,*** ¹⁵ so that you may become blameless and pure, “children of God without fault in a warped and crooked generation.” ¹⁶ ***Then you will shine among them like stars in the sky*** ¹⁶ as you ***hold firmly to the word of life.***

Romans 8:31-39 NIV

More Than Conquerors

³¹ What, then, shall we say in response to these things? ***If God is for us, who can be against us?*** ³² He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—***how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?***

³³ Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. ³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? ³⁶ As it is written:

“For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.”^[i]

³⁷ No, ***in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.*** ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons,^[k] neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹ neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Dealing with the “My Life is so Awful” attitude...

- Bad things happen to people (In this world you will have trouble... John 16:33)
- Our experiences, birthplace, hurts, disappointments, rejections, losses, mistakes, parents, children, family, workplace, government, media and ALL our injustices do not need to define us! They may shape us to a degree, but they do not need to define our thinking, actions or our future.
- Complaining and Argumentativeness are sins and do not reflect Jesus Christ (Philippians 2:14)
 - We are not always right and there is a lot that we don’ know.
 - We do not always have the need to be heard.
 - We do not always have to have input into a situation (mind your own business 1 Thessalonians 4:11)
- Negative Canadians, Christians and glass half full people...

You are an Answer being Delivered, not a Problem to be Solved (Barry Maracle)!

- You are the salt of the earth, you are the light of the world (Matthew 5)
- When you work hard, and learn to live without complaining or arguing you will stand out! You'll shine like stars amongst a crooked and perverse generation (Philippians 2).
- Christ is with us! He has commissioned us to "hold forth the Word of Life" (Philippians 2). We are more than conquerors because God will graciously give us what we need and will train us to trust Him (Romans 8).
- Get trained, get certified, become skilled, be proactive and offer the solution...
- Get rid of trusting conspiracy, anti-institutional, anti-parent, anti-government, anti-corporate thinking... Become an influencer!
- Be the answer...

Opportunities Abound

- "As the struggle to find the right talent continues, and candidates with in-demand skills get the upper hand, employers will be under pressure to position themselves as 'talent destinations' to attract the best workers that will drive their business forward." (Workopolis)
- Canadian & Local employers without skilled people to hire (36% of Canadian hiring managers in 2014 were unable to source the skilled talent they needed to fill job vacancies)
- Great Country – Canada is the eleventh largest economy in the world, relying chiefly upon its abundant natural resources and well-developed international trade networks. It has the tenth highest nominal per capita income globally, and the ninth highest ranking in the Human Development Index. It ranks among the highest in international measurements of government transparency, civil liberties, quality of life, economic freedom, and education.
- Great Education – Example – U of T ranks #6 in the world for medicine behind Harvard, John Hopkins, U of California (San Fran), Oxford & Duke. We have access to great local education, training, mentoring and distance access to so many great opportunities
- Great, Great, God! ***If God is for us, who can be against us?***
- It's time to repent from complaining and go and make our mark as ambassadors for Jesus Christ.

Salvation Prayer (to ask God to forgive your sins and adopt you as His child):

"Lord Jesus, I need You. Thank You for dying on the cross for my sins. I open the door of my life and receive You as my Saviour and Lord. Thank You for forgiving my sin and giving me eternal life. Take control of the throne of my life. Make me the kind of person You want me to be."

Announcements: www.hopecommunitysite.com 705-812-2833

Morning Prayer Monday to Friday 9 to 10 am at the church

Men's Basketball – Mondays 8:00 pm at the church

Woman's Walking/Exercise Group – Mondays 7:00 pm at the church

Kid's Tuesday Afterschool Program – 3:30 to 5:00 pm - gym games, snack, encouragement & friendship

Mom's Hangout – Wednesdays 10-11:30 am... A time for Moms and kid's to hang out and get to know each other.

God Squad Jr. High: Thursdays, 6:30 to 7:30 pm. Students grades 6-8 are invited to this great program.

Sr. High Youth: Thursdays: 7:30 to 8:45 pm. Students grades 9-12

Good Food Box – Orders on the first Monday of each month from 3-6 pm and pick up on the third Wednesday of each month from 3-6 pm. Fresh Fruit and Vegetables... Small box \$10, Large box \$15

Communion Lunch Service – First Sunday of each month Service (10:00 am) of each month as part of the morning service. Invite a friend and bring food to share in this pot luck style meal.

Family Fun at Bayview Wildwood Resort! – Sunday February 7th 1-3 pm after the communion lunch meal - An afternoon of outdoor activities for the whole family. Cross country skiing, snowshoeing, ice skating, hockey, tobogganing, playing in the snow, etc.

Teen Challenge Sunday – March 20th 10 am we have the Ontario Women's Speaking Team from Teen Challenge in Aurora.