#### Proverbs 13:12-NLT

**12** Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but when the desire is fulfilled, it is a tree of life.

#### **Ecclesiastes 9:4-TLV**

4 <u>Everyone who is among the living has hope</u>—even a living dog is better off than a dead lion.

#### **Hebrews 7:19-Passion Translation**

19 For the law has never made anyone perfect, but in its place is <u>a</u> far better hope which gives us confidence to experience intimacy with God!

#### Hebrews 6:18-20-Passion Translation

18 So it is impossible for God to lie for we know that his promise and his vow will never change! And now we have run into his heart to hide ourselves in his faithfulness. This is where we find his strength and comfort, for he empowers us to seize what has already been established ahead of time— an unshakeable hope!

19 <u>We have this certain hope</u> like a strong, unbreakable anchor holding our souls to God himself. Our <u>anchor of hope is fastened to the mercy seat</u>, which sits in the heavenly realm beyond the sacred threshold,

20 and where Jesus, our Forerunner, has gone in before us. He is now and forever our Royal Priest like Melchizedek.

# John 3:3-NLT

Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, unless you are born again, you cannot see the Kingdom of God."

# 1. HOPE IS TO THE HEART WHAT SEEDS ARE TO THE EARTH.

# **Hebrews 11:1-TLV**

1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, ...

#### Proverbs 13:12-NLT

**12** <u>Hope deferred</u> makes the <u>heart sick</u>, but when the **desire** is fulfilled, it is a tree of life.

**Deferred** - to be drawn out, be postponed, delayed.

**Message Bible** - Unrelenting disappointment leaves you heartsick, but a sudden good break can turn life around.

**BBE (Bible in Basic English)** - Hope put off is a *weariness to the heart*; but when *what is desired comes*, it is a tree of life.

#### **Luke 21:26-NKJV**

**26** ...men's <u>hearts failing them</u> from fear and the expectation of those things which are coming on the earth, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken.

#### Hebrews 12:1.

1 ...let us run with *patient endurance and steady and active*persistence the appointed course of the race that is set before us...

#### 1 Corinthians 9:24. LEB

...Run in such a way that you may win...

# 2. WHEN WE HAVE UNFULFILLED OR SHATTERED HOPES AND DREAMS, IT BRINGS <u>DISCOURAGEMENT</u> AND <u>DEPRESSION</u>.

# Deuteronomy 31:8-NKJB

And the LORD, He is the One who goes before you. He will be with you, He will not leave you nor forsake you; do not fear nor be dismayed."

**Dismayed** – to be shattered or broken, distressed (heartbreak, sorrow, despair.)

# 3. WE CAN EITHER BE A PRISONER OF HOPE OR DESPAIR.

# Psalm 142:3-4,7-NLT

- 3 When I am overwhelmed, you alone know the way I should turn. Wherever I go, my enemies have set traps for me.
- 4 I look for someone to come and help me, but no one gives me a passing thought! No one will help me; no one cares a bit what happens to me.
- 7 Bring me out of prison so I can thank You.

#### Psalm 42:5-6-NLT

- **5** Why am I discouraged? Why is my heart so sad? I will put my hope in God! I will praise Him again—my Savior and my God!
- 6 Now I am deeply discouraged, but I will remember You...

# Zechariah 9:12-GNB

**12** Return, you exiles who <u>now have hope</u>; return to your place of safety. Now I tell you that I will repay you twice over with blessing for all you have suffered.

#### Romans 15:13-NLT

13 I pray that <u>God, the source of hope</u>, will <u>fill you completely with</u> <u>joy and peace</u> <u>because you trust</u> in <u>Him. Then you will overflow</u> <u>with confident hope</u> through the <u>power of the Holy Spirit</u>.

#### Revelation 22:2-TLV

2 ...down the middle of the city's street. On either side of the river was <u>a tree of life</u>, bearing twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit each month; and <u>the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.</u>



HOPE...CAN TURN YOUR LIFE AROUND.

Sunday, JANUARY 9THth, 2022
Pastor Audie Clairmont