

A life lived on the hope of having money and earthly wealth does bring its problems, and often we become a slave to the wealth rather than gaining the freedom we think it should give us. It does not bring peace, or security, or satisfaction. It can make us more and more sinful, and allow us to indulge in ungodly conduct, costing us our eternal soul.

Influence and connection are all earthly, and they are only there to serve us as long as they remain. Earthly connections will not help us in the Heavenly realm. They cannot help us when we are resurrected to judgement. We stand alone, and unless we have invested in a relationship with Jesus Christ, there is no hope set before us for the final judgment day.

How can real Hope be mine now?

Put simply, we need to respond to His gospel. How do we do this, well acknowledge our sinful state and appeal to God by following His teaching about how to be saved:

We need to Believe in Christ/ Have Faith.

Romans 10:17, John 2:16

We need to confess Christ as Lord.

Romans 10:10, 1 John 4:15

We need to repent of our sins.

Acts 2:38, Luke 24:47

We need to be Baptized.

1 Peter 3:21, Acts 2:38

Contact us and we can help you by studying Gods Word so you know what God desires for you and from you, and learn to worship in spirit and truth. Jesus desires for all men to be saved (1 Tim 2:4); I urge you to make Jesus' desire your hope!

Worship times:

Sunday worship 10 am — 11:15, followed by Bible Study, 11:20 — 12.00

Bible Study Wednesdays 7:30 pm

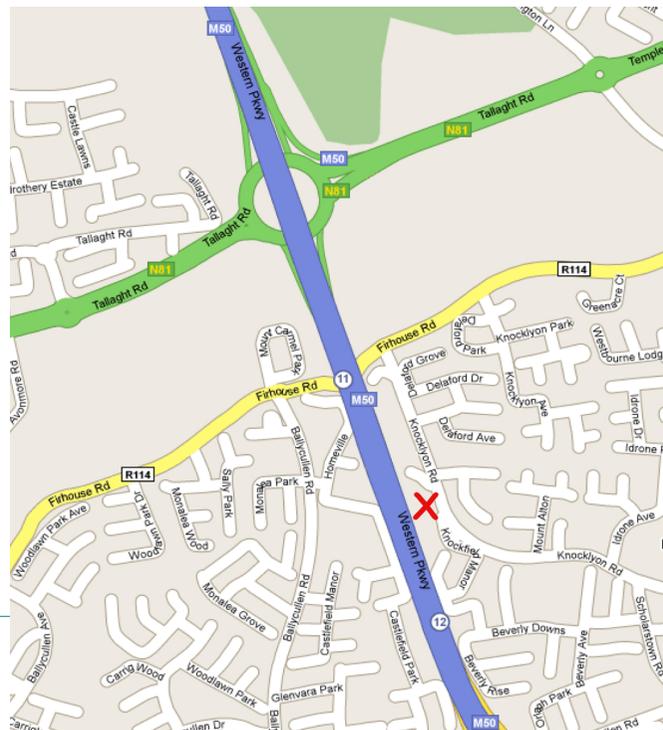
Your welcome to drop in any worship.

If you have troubles in your life; if you are feeling a lack of purpose and an inability to see any hope in your future, there is a hope that can be placed in someone who has already demonstrated his love for you.

Your Life need not be a life of slavery to sin and worry and broken peace. Ravaged with insecurity, concern for family and friends, disturbed and restless.

If you want to know more about Jesus, see what He did for you, and how He has laid out a pattern for you to follow, then please contact us.

Contact us and we can help you by studying Gods Word so you know what God desires for you and from you, and learn to worship in spirit and truth. Jesus desires for all men to be saved (1 Tim 2:4); do you have the same desire to be saved? Do you desire the Hope that does not disappoint! The New Testament Church, The Church of Christ Romans 16:16. **We are located at "X" on the map, beside Irish School .**



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HOPE!

The Eternal Currency

The shock waves of a changed time are now being felt by everyone. As we move from a prosperous expanding economy to much leaner times, many are losing jobs, their homes, facing lower living standards, and a radical change in their fortunes and outlook. For still others, the restless nights and anxious days are taking a severe toll on their health, with some even choosing death as more tolerable than a life full of fear and uncertainty.

- **Being well educated is proven to be no protection.**
- **Having property and investments is now a burden.**
- **Being well connected no longer guarantees influence and position.**
- **Our hope for the future, based on politics, based on wealth and based on ourselves has evaporated.**
- **Is there an advantage that will give us "hope" for a better future?**

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Definition of “HOPE”

Scholars sum up the definition of the word **"Hope."** "...Favourable and confident expectation. In the Bible in Rom 15:13 God is spoken of as “the God of hope”, " (Expository dictionary of New Testament Words).

Life without Hope

It's hard to imagine, but without hope in our everyday lives, we would cease to function. Would you apply for a job if you have no hope of getting it? Would you sit an exam with no hope of passing it? Would you set out on a journey with no hope of getting there?

Hope is like the forgotten ingredient in our every day lives which sharpens our behaviour and activities. Where we choose to place our hope is very important. We may place a great deal of hope for our children in a good education; we may place our hopes in economic success and progress; we may often times place our hopes in ourselves or in men. The current US president has been described as a man carrying the hopes of a nation! As we are now learning, there are many hopes that will fail, but, there is a hope which will not fail, neither in times past, the present, or in the future.

Put quite simply, **without hope** there is no reason to keep going, no task worth trying, no struggle worth perusing; no reason to live. Our lives would become aimless, pointless and without fulfilment or real purpose. They would be lived in vain.

Often, regrettably, so much of the tribulation and stress is as a result of what we are doing! “but to those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness—indignation and wrath,⁹ tribulation and anguish, on every soul of man who does evil, of the Jew first and also of the Greek;¹⁰ but glory, honour, and peace to everyone who works what is good, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.! Romans 2:8-10

Real Hope: the most potent power on earth.

Very often, our concern is for the matters of this life, and having money is considered paramount to our wellbeing and survival. Yet God addresses this issue for His people, by asking them to trust Him and look at the lessons creation gives us. “Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ... Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.” Matt 6: 26-33 It is within God's ability to take care of His children. He knows our distresses and cares, and unlike earthly parents, He has the capacity to meet all of our needs, if we will put Him first in our lives.

When it comes to sickness and death, again we can be encouraged: ²⁵ Now a certain woman had a flow of blood for twelve years, ²⁶ and had suffered many things from many physicians. She had spent all that she had and was no better, but rather grew worse. ²⁷ When she heard about Jesus, she came behind *Him* in the crowd and touched His garment. ²⁸ For she said, “If only I may touch His clothes, I shall be made well.” ²⁹ Immediately the fountain of her blood was dried up, and she felt in *her* body that she was healed of the affliction. ³⁰ And Jesus, immediately knowing in Himself that power had gone out of Him, turned around in the crowd and said, “Who touched My clothes?” ³¹ But His disciples said to Him, “You see the multitude thronging You, and You say, ‘Who touched Me?’” ³² And He looked around to see her who had done this thing. ³³ But the woman, fearing and trembling, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell down before Him and told Him the whole truth. ³⁴ And He said to her, “Daughter, your faith has made you well. Go in peace, and be healed of your affliction.” Mark Ch 5.

The woman, who had spent all that she had to be made well, turned to Jesus when there was nothing left, her last hope. She came to Jesus and she came in faith, believing that her hope in Jesus power was the key to being healed. When all conventional avenues had failed her, faith proved not to disappoint. Jesus is our hope, our only hope in these uncertain and difficult times.

If we come to Jesus in faith, prepared to reach out to Him, and listen to Him, Jesus can give us a hope that can lift us out of our fears right now, and give us a future so bright that we can walk securely even through we walk through “the valley of the shadow of death”. The hope that Jesus offers is much more than an eternity with Him in paradise, it's also a deliverance right now from all our fears if we would but trust Him. For years now we have put our trust in earthly riches, possessions and the powerful influence of men, and everyone of them has failed. As we examine past historic events, we realise the one recurring theme—that trust in earthly riches has failed miserably to fulfil our hope. It's time to learn from past mistakes and put our hope in that which “cannot fail” and will not disappoint. It's time to place our hope in God.

Hope that God reveals to us.

In Romans 8:24 it reveals the following: ²⁴For in hope we have been saved, but hope that is seen is not hope; for who hopes for what he already sees? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, with perseverance we wait eagerly for it.” What does the scripture speak of?

Well scripture is good at explaining scripture so lets look at Hebrews 11:1 “Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.” So Faith and Hope are linked together in scripture. Faith in Jesus Christ—Hope in Jesus Christ.

What can we hope for in Christ?

Titus 3:4-7 reads ⁴“But when the kindness of God our Savior and His love for mankind appeared, ⁵He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit, ⁶whom He poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Saviour, ⁷so that being justified by His grace we would be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

The “HOPE” that we can have, is a Hope based on Jesus Christ. It is a hope for the future, a better tomorrow! A hope that TODAY we can be freed from our sin, risen up to a new life in Christ, a life of peace, contentment and security, the very things we strived for through money, possessions and influence, but could not attain!