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| LOVE NEVER LOSES HOPE  Love hopes all things (1Cor 13:7). Faith is confident assurance that something we want is going to happen. It is the certainty that what we hope for is waiting for us, even though we cannot see it up ahead” (Heb 11:1 TLB). Bottomline, no hope, no faith. Upon the loss of her husband and two sons, Naomi, whose name meant pleasant, sweet, beautiful said, “Don’t call me Naomi, call me Mara (Ruth 1:20). Mara means bitter. What was happening here? Naomi had lost hope. To her, everything was bleak. Little did she realize that through her darkest moment, God was yet working out a future. Boaz, the wealthiest man in the land and a very Godly man eventually married Ruth and they had Obed, the father of Jesse, the father of David (Rom 1:3). Even through your darkest valleys of life, never lose hope in God. He will always make the greatest of treasures from our darkest disappointments.  Hope is the fuel of life. Once Naomi became hopeless, everything went south: her thoughts, words and deeds. What you allow to fill your mind will shape the way you see things, whether exciting or depressive. You cannot keep a bird from flying over your head. But you can keep it from building a nest in your hair. Ruth chose to not let it build a nest in her hair. What you allow into your mind is what will shape your world, because as a man thinks, he becomes (Pro 23:7).  No matter how bleak a situation may be, you turn on the light, don’t curse the darkness. That’s the principle Paul lived by. He said, “I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed and I am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day” (2Tim 1:12). Compare this to Judas, who betrayed Jesus, became hopeless and went to commit suicide (Acts 1:18). Further still, consider Peter, the foremost Apostle, who upon denying Jesus three times, said, “I am going fishing” (Jn 21:3). But Jesus upon resurrecting came and restored Peter back to ministry. (Jn 21:15-19).  David ran into many bumps in his life. How did he handle it? He spoke to himself. “Why are you cast down, O my soul? And why are you disquiet within me? Hope in God….” (Psa 43:5). Permit me to be blunt. We give too much credit and credence to the devil, forgetting that his modus operandi is to inject negative thoughts into our minds, make good seem not so good and what is bad even worse. We rent space to him in our minds and then we’re surprised when everything else looks dull and depressive. Let’s all memorize Hab 3:17-19. Joseph said to his brothers, “But for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good” (Gen |  | 50:20). In the midst of your bleakest pains, God is still up to something good. Don’t ever lose hope (Jer 29:11; Rom 8:28).  I heard the story of a dog. As you read it, ask yourself, why can’t you do better? It’s owner had left him at an airport. Faithfully and unwaveringly that dog remained at the Airport fed and cared for by passers- by not for one week or a month or a year. It remained at that airport, checking every arriving flight for five years, until its owner arrived. For sure we can do much better than a dog.  C:\Users\DNorwood.LWC-REMOTE-SVR\Downloads\Talk It Over - LG (1).jpg  1. Pro 4:23 warns us to be careful about what we think, because what you’re thinking runs your life. Ruth was very hopeful woman. Discuss. And then compare her with hopeless, negative Naomi.  2. God is faithful. He will never let you down. Of course, we don’t always fully grasp the wonders of His workings. Make a list of the negative and hopeless thoughts you nurse privately. And like David in Psa 43:5, speak forcefully to your soul to put your hope and confidence in God over each.  3. A hopeless person is a faithless person (Heb 11:1). The dog in the story didn’t stagger but remained hopeful for a whopping five years. Why do you think believers cannot just do like the dog?  See the source image  1. Hab 3:17-19. Declare to yourself and to God that no matter what happens, you will not lose your hope in God.  2. Negative thinking produces a sour and sorry life. Take authority over every negative and hopeless thought in your mind (2Cor 10:5). They don’t come from God. Plant positive replacement for them (Jer 29:11).  3. People don’t just get depressed. It all begins with negative thoughts, then moods follow, and on and on, sometimes involving demons and the end of such is worse than the beginning. Here you will firmly uproot every satanic spirit of negativity and hopelessness to leave NOW in Jesus name. You will forcefully command them to repair the damages they caused before their departure. And you will forbid them from ever returning back, in Jesus name.  See the source image   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | 1 | OPENING PRAYER | 2MIN | | 2 | PRAISE & WORSHIP | 5MIN | | 3 | READING MESSAGE OF THE DAY | 5MIN | | 4 | TALKING IT OVER | 10MIN | | 5 | PRAYING FOR ONE ANOTHER | 10MIN | | 6 | CLOSE | 3MIN | |  |  |  | |  |  |  | |
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