



FELLOWSHIP OF  
**CHRISTIAN ATHLETES**  
**BASEBALL**

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## Hope

*“So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day.” -- 2 Corinthians 4:16-18*

How do you use the word hope? Most of us use the word to convey one of three things:

- 1) a “wish” about something. For example, “I sure hope I ace that math test today,” or
- 2) what we think should happen, i.e.; “I hope he will be honest to me this time,” or
- 3) A motivational sense to help us explain a decision or choice. For example; “I will workout each day for an hour in the hopes that I will get faster and stronger.”

However, for those who rest in God’s grace it is much more than: a faint wish, it is deeper than a moral conviction, or a motivation to help us make a choice to perform an action.

Hope is foundational. As God’s children we can lean on hope. We can build our faith on it! It is as Paul David Tripp writes; “... *more than wishing things will work out. It (hope) is resting in the God who holds all things in his wise and powerful hands.*”

Hope based on God allows us to live with confidence. It is being secure with the fact that He is in complete and total control, and that all of His promises will come true. It is knowing that God’s unchanging power, wisdom, faithfulness, patience, and grace will never, ever change.

Our hope in Him is transformational. True hope in God changes the way we live. When you have hope that is guaranteed, you can live with confidence and courage and make choices both of faith and in faith. Choices that may seem foolish to those not accepting or believing in God. Choices that are grounded in the knowledge of Christ and his grace!

As a child of God and as someone who believes in the saving mercy and grace of Jesus, you never, ever have to live without hope. Hope has entered your life by the grace of Jesus! Grab ahold of it and build a life of faith on it!

**Questions:** How do you use the word hope? Is your hope based on worldly things and definitions? Or are instead are you leaning on the foundation of God and his promises?

**Challenge:** Take time this week to read three passages from the Bible and circle the promises made by God. Pray about these promises and ask God about the promises He has made to you. Live out this week as a child of God!

**Prayer:** Thank you Lord for your mercy and grace. Thank you for your patience with me. Grant me the confidence and courage to live in the knowledge that comes from a guaranteed and secured hope.

-- Todd Burger – NOVA/DC FCA Baseball