



February 2021

IS THERE ANY HOPE?

There are two indisputable facts about life:

1. People can't live without HOPE.
2. Jesus is the only Source of true HOPE.

Throughout this unusual season when people all over the world have been bombarded with stressful events like Covid-19, political upheaval and so many other life-altering trials, the Lord dropped a word into my spirit. As believers we have a secret weapon – GREAT HOPE! It is the kind of hope that is not based on our surroundings or our leaders or the promise of the ending of this virus. Our hope is in the Lord Jesus Christ and His promise to keep us when we walk with him.

2 Timothy 1:6-7 says, *"This is why I remind you to fan into flames the spiritual gift God gave you when I laid my hands on you. For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love and self discipline (or in another translation, "a sound mind")."*

Paul wrote this message to Timothy while he was in prison. Timothy was a pastor/evangelist who was doing the work of the Lord while living under an ungodly, brutal, authoritarian government. Both men were in stressful situations even while doing good and serving God. That's why Paul reminded Timothy to keep his spirit fed with God's flame burning brightly in his spirit. It is His Word and the Holy Spirit's empowering presence that keeps us hopeful and full of faith.

If we pay too much attention to what is going on around us through media and people who are not speaking hope and life, we run the risk of losing our balance. Paul reminds us that we have the spirit of power, love and self-discipline rather than fear. That should fill every one of us with GREAT HOPE!

Romans 15:13 (NASB) says, *"Now may the **God of hope** fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you will **abound in hope** by the power of the Holy Spirit."* If we as Christ's Church are filled with GREAT HOPE we will brighten the dark, fearful world around us.

On January 2nd a young First Nations teenage boy in Ottawa sustained a brain injury that caused him to be air-lifted to the Children's Hospital in Ottawa. The injury was so profound that the doctors put him into an induced coma and said he would likely remain in a vegetative state for the rest of his life. He was considered brain-dead and at one point even had to have his heart shocked to get it beating again.

The boy's grandmother is a Spirit-filled believer and Pastor on a First Nations reserve in Ontario. She refused to take the doctor's prognosis as the final word. Fear would not overtake her. She began praying and invited hundreds of believers to pray in agreement with her for the boy's restoration to wholeness.

As they prayed, a miracle happened! One week later the boy awoke and told the nurse, his mother and his aunt that he was just with Jesus in heaven. Grabbing the nurse's hand he began to pray for her and for all the children in the hospital, quoting Psalm 91. This miracle was so radical that his older sister, who had been grieving her brother's condition, rededicated her life to Jesus. His mother who had at one time served the Lord, is now confronted with the reality of God and His great love again. What a great testimony of the power of GREAT HOPE invading an entire family when God's people pray!

As I minister and mentor young Inuit and First Nations youth and others via social media, my job is not just to give them information and inspiration.



My job is to instill the truth of God's Word – the only truth that transforms lives and gives GREAT HOPE! God has given you a mandate too. He calls each of us to declare the Gospel to a frightened, hurting world. It might be dark in the world right now but I pray that the God of Hope will fill you with GREAT HOPE and expectation in this season of your life!

This month our Russian missionary, Igor Bogomol, is heading back to the Yamal region where thousands of Russian Inuit live. Despite this pandemic Igor is still able to travel and bring the Gospel to the forgotten places of Arctic Russia. We are so blessed as a ministry to still have "boots on the ground", and even though you and I are forced to be at home in this season, we are with Igor as he goes! Please keep Igor in your prayers as he travels and ministers in Beloyarsk, Aksarka, Tovopogol and other remote villages.

In addition to the Gospel message, Igor will take life-saving resources, food and clothing to meet the practical needs there, as well as continue to equip the saints to minister the Gospel to others. Let's believe for a Holy Ghost outbreak in these regions as Igor carries a message of GREAT HOPE that is so desperately needed in these areas.

Your faithful, generous giving is the life-blood of keeping this ministry strong and able to reach out "from sea to sea and...to the ends of the earth." Will you sow a sacrificial seed today so that we can continue to declare GREAT HOPE to our hurting world?

Steven Carleton - President

A MESSAGE FROM BILL AND GWEN



RESET!

In Steven's message to you he quoted the well-known verse from 2 Timothy 1:7, *"For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and love and a sound mind."* The Apostle Paul was not talking about everyday run-of-the mill fear, like fear of heights, snakes and the like. He spoke of the kind of fear that seizes our minds and keeps us from living a victorious and fruitful life.

Paul called it a "spirit of fear". That kind of spirit doesn't come from God. It comes from the pit of hell. Satan will use every strategy he can to paralyze believers and keep them from fulfilling their God-given mandate to *"Go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature."* (Mark 16:15). That's why it's time to **reset** our minds to think God-thoughts, to hear His voice and follow His direction.

Government leaders have called this pandemic season and global financial stress an opportunity to reset to a global agenda. The Bible talks about the anti-Christ introducing a one-world system that will unleash all kinds of evil and fear into hearts. But I've got good news! **God has a greater agenda** – it's for believers to dig in their heels and **reset** their minds on Him – the source of truth, justice and peace!

Colossians 3:1 says, *"Set (reset) your minds on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory."* What a hope we have when we turn our focus on Him rather than on the world's agenda! With our hearts **reset** to His purpose, Satan and his spirit of fear cannot overtake us. We are more than conquerors! I've read the back of the Book and we win!

I hope you are watching the video messages from Steven and I during this pandemic season. They are our way of getting the life-changing message of hope and healing to you while we are unable to conduct in-church meetings. I also want to remind you to send us any prayer needs you have so that we can stand in agreement with you for miracles! *Bill Prankard - Evangelist and Founder*

Canada Shall Be Saved!