

# Is Abounding Hope Really Possible?

Romans 15:1-13 (pew Bible pg. 1138)

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Context: The Book of Romans – doctrinal *and* practical.

A verse for all Christians for all seasons:

Romans 15:13

*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. NASU*

Bible Hope: *The certainty of good because of the promises of God.*

Because God IS the God of hope,  
you really can abound with genuine hope.

Applications:

1. Preach this to yourself.
2. Pray this for yourself & others.
3. Practice this perspective.

*Four words that change everything: God is not done.*

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## SUGGESTED DISCUSSION POINTS FROM JULY 15, 2018 SERMON

1. Discuss hope – What is it? What are some of the ‘fakes?’ What can help make it genuine?
2. Share a time when you received sincere and meaningful encouragement from someone. What made it so significant?
3. What is one area of your life where you can apply this sermon? How, specifically, might that be done? [Example: Responding to the news; with regard to the future; values you live out in terms of what’s really important; concern over health, a relative etc.]
4. Read Romans 15:13 again. It may be easy to *say* “We are to cooperate with the Holy Spirit in cultivating hope,” but much more challenging to actually *do* it. What are specific, concrete ways you can do this?
5. How do the following verses help you understand the biblical concept of hope? 1 Tim. 1:1; Heb. 6:18-19; Titus 2:13.
6. What are some “default thought habits” you naturally slip into? How can they be replaced with Spirit-renewed, hope-thinking?
7. What is one specific application the Lord is speaking to you about from this? What remaining questions, comments or insights do you have to share with your group?
8. Spend the closing few minutes praying – for yourself and one other person to put this into practice with the Spirit’s help.