

Sermon Notes: The well community church – Indian Service | 28th September 2025

Greetings in the name of the Lord and savior Jesus Christ, welcome to the well community church – Indian service

Confident Hope – It's a Promise

Texts: Lamentations 3:22–26; 3:31–33; 5:19–22

Today we finish our series called **Confident Hope**.

We are reading from a book—**Lamentations**.

This book was written after the city of Jerusalem was destroyed.

People were sad. People were scared. People had many questions.

Right in the middle of the sadness, we hear strong words of hope:

"The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases.

His mercies never come to an end.

They are new every morning.

Great is Your faithfulness." (Lamentations 3:22–23)

How can anyone say this when life is so painful?

That is our big question today.

Here is the **big idea**:

Real hope grows in the middle of pain.

We **tell God the truth** about our pain.

We **remember** His love and mercy.

We **receive** new help from Him each day.

We **wait** for Him with trust, because He rules forever.

We will walk through three parts of the book.

Then we will hear a short story of a missionary who had confident hope.

At the end, we will pray and respond.

1) Hope Tells the Truth (Lamentations 3:19–21 and 3:22–23)

"Remember my pain and my wandering... my soul is bowed down.

But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope." (3:19–21)

Before the writer talks about hope, he tells the truth.

He says, "I hurt."

He says, "I feel low."

This is called **lament**.

Lament is not doubt.

Lament is faith that talks honestly to God.

Sometimes we think faith means we must always smile.

We may think we should not speak about hard things.

But the Bible does not say that.

The Psalms do not say that.

Jesus did not do that.

Before the cross, Jesus prayed with tears.

So, **hope starts with truth**.

We can tell God what is happening and how we feel.

Think about the emergency room in a hospital.

The first step is **triage**—you tell the nurse where it hurts.

You do not get better by saying, "I am fine."

In the same way, healing with God starts when we say,

"Lord, this is hard. I feel afraid. I bring this to You."

This week, try a short prayer with three lines:

1. "God, this is hard: _____."
2. "This is how I feel: _____."
3. "I bring it to You : _____."

Now listen to the turning point:

"The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; His mercies never come to an end;
they are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness." (3:22–23)

2) Hope Remembers God's Love and Receives New Mercy (Lamentations 3:22–26)

These words are the center of the book.

"Steadfast love" means **God's loyal love**—a promise love.

God's mercy does not run out.

God's mercy is **new every morning**.

Every new day has **new help** from God.

The writer also says, "**The LORD is my portion.**"

This means, "God is enough for me."

Even when life is hard, God is still my treasure, my security, my future.

Notice the order.

He does **not** say, "My life is perfect, so I have hope."

He says, "**The LORD** is my portion, **so** I have hope."

Hope rests on **who God is**, not on how the day goes.

Think of a cup under a running faucet.

The cup does not make water.

It just stays under the flow.

God's love and mercy are like that faucet.

Our job is not to make hope by ourselves.

Our job is to **stay close to God**, to stay under His flow of mercy.

Let's practice three small steps you can use every day:

- **Remember** a promise: "Your love never stops. Your mercy is new today."
- **Say it** when fear rises. Quietly speak, "Great is Your faithfulness."
- **Receive** today's mercy. Pray, "Lord, give me enough for **today**. I give You tomorrow."

The text also says, "It is **good** to **wait quietly** for the Lord's help." (3:26)

Waiting is not doing nothing.

Waiting means you trust God, you pray, you obey in small steps, and you keep going.

3) Hope Trusts God's Heart (Lamentations 3:31–33)

"The Lord will not cast off forever...
though He lets us see grief, He will have compassion...
He does not afflict from His heart." (3:31–33)

These are gentle, strong words.
God allows hard times in a broken world.
Sometimes God corrects us like a loving Father.
But pain is **not** His deepest desire for us.
His deepest heart is **compassion**.
He loves to show mercy.

We see God's heart most clearly in Jesus.
Jesus cried at the tomb of His friend Lazarus.
Jesus carried our sin and sorrow on the cross.
Jesus rose from the dead to give us life and hope.

So while we wait, what do we do?
Here are **three simple postures**:

1. **Wait quietly** — Sit with open hands for five minutes a day. Breathe slowly. Pray, "Great is Your faithfulness."
2. **Seek God** — Take one small step of obedience you have been delaying. Make the call. Say sorry. Forgive. Serve.
3. **Return to God** — If you have drifted into a bad habit or hard heart, come back today. God welcomes you.

4) Hope Prays While We Wait (Lamentations 5:19–22)

"But **You, O LORD, reign forever**; Your throne lasts to all generations...
Restore us to Yourself, O LORD... renew our days." (5:19, 21)

Do you hear both sides?
"**You reign forever.**"
"**Restore us.**"
This is how hope talks.

We say, "God, You are King," **and** "God, please help us."
Both are true at the same time.

Some people think we must choose:

"God is on the throne, so I will not talk about my pain,"
or,

"I am hurting, so I cannot talk about God's rule."

Lamentations teaches us to do **both**.

We praise God **and** we ask for help.

We trust **and** we wait.

5) A Simple Plan for Your Week (9 Minutes a Day)

Here is an easy plan you can start today.

It takes **nine minutes**.

1. **Name it** (3 minutes): "Lord, this is hard... This is how I feel... I bring it to You."
2. **Remember and Say it** (3 minutes): Speak Lamentations 3:22–24 out loud.
3. **Receive and Wait** (3 minutes): Sit quietly. Open your hands. Breathe slowly. Pray, "Great is Your faithfulness."

Also choose **one small "overflow"** each day:

- **Encourage** someone with a Bible verse.
- **Endure** by taking one small faithful step.
- **Extend** help to someone who has a need.

6) The Good News That Holds Us

Our hope is not about how tightly **we** can hold God.

Our hope is about how firmly **God** holds us.

Jesus died for our sins.

Jesus rose from the dead.

Because of Jesus, God's love and mercy are **alive** and **close** today.

When you wake up tomorrow, God's mercy will be there, new for you.

7) Response Time

Let's respond to God together.

First, let us **tell the truth** to God.

Pray in your heart:

"Lord, this is hard: _____. This is how I feel: _____. I bring it to You."

Second, let us **remember** God's promise together.

I will say the first line. You say the next line.

Leader: "The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases;"

People: "His mercies never come to an end."

Leader: "They are new every morning;"

People: "Great is Your faithfulness."

Third, if you need prayer today, please come.

If your heart feels low, do not carry it alone.

We will pray with you and for you.

8) A True Story of Confident Hope: Adoniram Judson (Missionary)

Let me share a short story.

Adoniram Judson was one of the first missionaries from America.

He went to **Burma (Myanmar)** in **1813**.

Life there was very hard.

For a long time, he saw very few people believe in Jesus.

He buried loved ones there, including his wife Ann.

During a war, he was put in **prison**.

He was chained. He was sick. He was weak.

When he was finally free, many people told him to go home.

But he stayed.

He kept working.

He translated the **whole Bible** into the Burmese language.

He helped start churches that lasted many years after he died.

At his lowest moment, someone asked, "What do you think about the future here?"

He said, "**The future is as bright as the promises of God.**"

He did not say this because life was easy.

He said it because **God's love never stops** and His **mercies are new every morning**.

That is the same hope we read in Lamentations.

This story is not about a superman.

Judson was a normal man who suffered.

But he **held on to God's promises**.

You can do that too.

Your hope is not in your strength.

Your hope is in **God's faithfulness**.

8) Let us examine ourselves as we partake of the Lord's Table (Communion)

"God of hope, we come to You with honest hearts.

Thank You that Your love never stops.

Thank You that Your mercy is new every morning.

We give You our fears and our pain.

Teach us to wait quietly.

Help us seek You and return to You.

For anyone who feels far away, draw them close.

For anyone in trouble, lift them up.

For anyone in sin, forgive and restore them.

Fill us with Your Holy Spirit.

Let hope overflow in our words, in our work, and in our love for people.

We trust You, Jesus Amen."