

First Friends Church
Grateful People Give Thanks for Hope
11-30-08

1 Thessalonians 5:18 *Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.*

Trials are like megaphones to amplify the hope of Christ in us.

What “life message” are you broadcasting to your family, friends, the world?

So PUMP UP THE VOLUME OF HOPE!

1. Get ready...trouble’s gettin’ louder - John 16:33
"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! (Have HOPE!) I have overcome the world."

Mark 4:39 “peace be still” wind died down and there was great calm.

2. Plug into the source - Christ in us, the hope of Glory. Col. 1:27

1 Cor. 15:19 If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are to be pitied more than all men.

1 Peter 1:3 *Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the*

Psalms 42:5 *Why are you downcast, O my soul? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him.*

Psalms 42:11 (same) Psalms 43:5 (same)

Romans 5:5 And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us.

Romans 15:13 May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

3. Pump up the volume of hope and GIVE THANKS!
It is God’s will!

1 Peter 3:15 *But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have.*

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Finally: How do we know that trials are like a megaphone to amplify the hope of Christ?

The Cross was Jesus megaphone to amplify HOPE of his resurrection!

Application: Plug into the Hope of Christ

1. Meditating on, and praying God’s Word.
2. Spend time with people who share our hope in Christ.