

Gathering HOPE

ope – it's a wonderful thing; that is unless hope disappoints us! We've all had moments when we hoped things would work out only to be disappointed. Maybe you hoped to be hired in a new position only to find out that someone else got the job. Or, you hoped that this guy would be THE ONE only to find out he wasn't. It could be something simple – you hoped to spend the day at the park and you woke up to a rainy day!

Having our hopes dashed can be really discouraging and sometimes even heart breaking. It makes life feel unsteady when our hopes and dreams don't happen. We wonder why we never catch a break or why things never work out for us. You've gone through times with others when life seemed hopeless and it was difficult to find words to help.

As Christians, we are not without hope! We have a solid hope in Christ and His Word. He never fails us. While His timing may not be our timing, or His plan our plan, we can be assured we are not hopeless in Christ. He orchestrates His perfect plan in our life – and His plan is better than anything we could hope for in our lives.

Psalm 130:5–6 reminds us:

I wait for the LORD, my whole being waits, and in his word I put my hope. I wait for the Lord more than watchmen wait for the morning, more than watchmen wait for the morning.

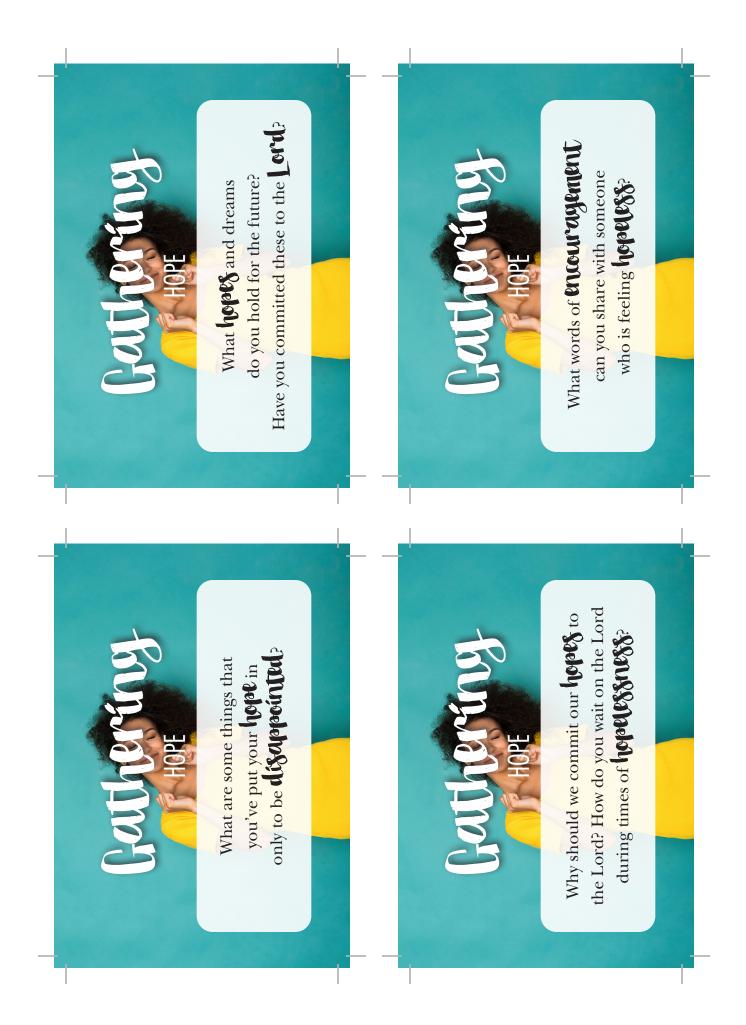
Waiting for the Lord during times of hopelessness is difficult! But we can be assured that we can place our hopes in Christ and never be discouraged!

After reading Scripture consider these questions.

- What are some things that you've put your hope in only to be disappointed?
- What hopes and dreams do you hold for the future? Have you committed these to the Lord?
- Why should we commit our hopes to the Lord? How do you wait on the Lord during times of hopelessness?
- What words of encouragement can you share with someone who is feeling hopeless?

Complete your monthly report and turn it in to the Corps Officer.





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