

**Hope is Here Series**  
**“Enter In”**  
**12/12/20**  
**Newport News**

**Opening**

-My hope each week is that you have a takeaway from these messages...mine last week was: despair has a cousin named cynicism...ouch! & the crow...

-If you are watching from home, don't just log off when the message is over, talk about it, talk about worship, ask each other some questions like "Do you feel like God spoke to you about anything?"

-Welcome to our series: Hope Is Here...tonight's message: Enter In

**Introduction (first slide of coffee and ice cream)**

-somebody say, "Paid in full." Somebody type in the comments on FB or the chat online...

-(tell story of 5 year anniversary trip to the DR in 2002...Derick was two, we were pregnant with Ethan...)

- All inclusive resorts are the way to travel and you don't have to spend a fortune to go...
- Once you are there...everything is paid in full! No tips, no bills, no nothing...it's ALL INCLUDED! (we did learn that if you left a small tip, a dollar or two in the room, you got extra towels and water bottles!)
- Coffee with sweetened condenses milk, coffee stations everywhere, we just finishing one cup by the time we got to the next station...LOL!
- No one said, "Stop drinking so much coffee!" (They may have said, "Sir, please stop drinking from the sweetened condensed milk container.")
- AND there was a late night dessert buffet EVERY NIGHT! AND because you couldn't sleep from drinking coffee ALL day...we of course were at the late night dessert buffet!
- Homemade Rum Raisin Ice Cream... (talk about Breyer's Vanilla and HD rum raisin)
- No one said, "Stop eating all the ice cream..."
- Everything was PAID IN FULL!!!

## Enter In

-Let me tell you something about hope...

**Jesus has already paid the bill, in full...hope is here and it is free for the taking so let's enter in!** (free refills hasn't always been...)

>1 Peter 1:18-19

(tell the story of the movie ALL The Money In The World)

>1 John 2:2

(expiation means guilt is removed, propitiation means the anger of a deity has been satisfied...two sides of same coin)

>Psalm 49:7-8 (means we couldn't pay what was due!!!)

-Romans 15:13 (for Christians only!)

***I pray that God, the source of hope, will fill you completely with joy and peace because you trust in him. Then you will overflow with confident hope through the power of the Holy Spirit.***

-I think some of you tonight, you have been struggling with hope because of how you look for hope

- Circumstance change = relief
- Friends and family = comfort
- Hobbies = distraction

-what you didn't realize is that THERE IS AN OVERFLOW OF HOPE ALREADY IN YOU...SO ENTER IN!

-Enter In = step into the place of hope that is already within you!

-Why don't people enter in? Let me teach you three principles tonight which help explain why people don't ENTER IN.

### Principle One: Have A Vision

**-Having a vision for a better tomorrow is not a denial of the desperation of today!** (beware of false choices)

*-Futility is the fertility that makes it possible for hope to overflow in our hearts!*

-Romans 8:24

-Have you read Psalms...talk about it, complain about it, cry about it, be angry about it...there is nothing faithless about acknowledging the desperation of your circumstance...you've not disqualified yourself from hope!!!!

-Romans 5:3-5

-So...ENTER IN!!!! (talk about tear filled days...that's okay, now go find that place in your heart overflowing with hope and get some!!!!)

### **Principle Two: Be Content**

**-Being content with the promise of God's goodness is vital in the absence of a guaranteed outcome!**

-Romans 4:18-19 (he had a guarantee...)

-Psalm 27:13-14 (there is a reason these two verses go together)

-So...ENTER IN!!!!

### **Principle Three: Stay Wise**

**-Staying wise to the schemes of the devil that try to fill you with shame, obscuring the way to the hope within you.**

-Revelation 12:9-11 (reference only)

- Satan's name "accuser of the brethren" (connect to Romans 8)
  - Not diabolos (slanderer) but rather kategoria which means to bring a charge against someone (kata is against) (agora is public place) so it is a legal term...

**-Satan can't repay what Jesus has done for us...so he tries to convince us we don't deserve it...guess what, we don't, that's why it's called grace!!!!**

-So ENTER IN!!!!

## **Band**

**-2 Peter 1:3**

**-1 John 5:21**

## **Close**

-pray...dismiss...prayer at front...