

## ***Looking ahead...***

Next week, we will be looking at the theme of “**Grace**” in *Romans 5:12-21*. **Grace** means “undeserved rewards”. We don’t “*deserve*” the *free gift* God has given us. We are going to learn about how death came into the world and how we can have life in a world filled with death. We are going to learn about Jesus giving us the *free gift of life*. God’s **grace** is greater than our sin including our wrong thoughts, attitudes and actions. God’s **grace** is abundant. We don’t need to experience famine when we ‘feast’ on the **grace** of God. And God offers everyone an opportunity to have life through Jesus Christ.

## ***Readings to prepare for the coming week:***

\_\_\_DAY 1 (September 16): *Ephesians 2:1-10*

\_\_\_DAY 2 (September 17): *2 Corinthians 4:7-18*

\_\_\_DAY 3 (September 18): *2 Corinthians 8:1-15*

\_\_\_DAY 4 (September 19): *2 Corinthians 12:1-10*

\_\_\_DAY 5 (September 20): *2 Thessalonians 2:13-17*

\_\_\_DAY 6 (September 21): *1 Peter 4:1-11*



# ***Hope***

## ***Week Two***

This week, we will be looking at the theme of “**hope**” in *Colossians 1:15-29*. There is a mystery to *hope*. The writer of *Hebrews* talks about “*assurance of things hoped for*.” What does that mean? Who is the “*hope of glory*?” What is the ‘mystery’ of people that hate each other becoming brothers and sisters? We are going to learn about Jesus being our hope. He is the only hope we have of true riches. We will look at hope while suffering...why hope is essential to our outlook on life... why our hope in Jesus is a ‘manifesto’ (warning/wisdom)...why our hope is in God’s Strength, Energy and Power.

***Making it personal...***

Which observation(s) from Sunday's sermon do you feel the need to apply to your life (see below)?

(Our hope is joy in suffering, our hope is hope worth sharing, our hope is in the miracle, Our hope is a manifesto, a warning, and wisdom, Our Hope is in God's strength, energy, and the power of the Holy Spirit)

How would applying these affect your coming week?

Where is your 'hope level' at right now? 1-10...10 being "my hope is the highest it could be". Why did you choose that number?

Why is "joy in suffering" so important?

How are you *currently* acting on your hope in your 3 life circles?

How *can* you act on your hope in your family circle? Your school/work circle? Your community circle?

What is the most difficult part of 'putting your hope in Jesus Christ' for you right now?

Why is 'hope in Jesus' different than other things or people we hope in?

Have you been living out the 'manifesto, the warning, the wisdom' we can have hoping in Jesus? Read 1 Peter 1:3-9. Are you a 'living hope' to others in your circles?

How can you work on Hope in your 3 life circles?

In your "SonLight Circle," write down 3 people that need hope and exchange your list with another person in the circle. Pray for these people that they would gain joy in suffering, that they would listen to the warning, and live in God's strength, energy and power. Pray that they would have faith in Jesus Christ, His sacrifice for their sins, and His resurrection from the dead. Pray for everyone's individual/personal circles (Family, School/Work, Community) to be transformed through hope in Jesus.