



new life fellowship

**Sermon Title: When There is No Hope**  
**Speaker: Drey Hyun, Pastor, Hope Church NYC**  
**Scripture: 1 Peter 1:3-6**

**Sermon Outline:**

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 dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you, who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials.

*(NIV)*

The most important think that we can do is to stay encouraged, especially in the midst of challenging and difficult situations or seasons of our live. For it is when we lose hope that things in our lives being to go down hill. The past year and a half has seen many moments of hopelessness for so many of us – individually and collectively.

Maybe you are going throught a time like this now or have been there before. Where you were feeling like you were going to get over whatever mountain you were facing, only to end up getting some news or information that brought you right back down to feeling hopeless. We all go through these types of seasons where we feel hopeless.

The early church and Christian faith was not always meant for times when we were at our highest experiencing joy, but was for those times when we were living life with challenges in extremely difficult circumstances. The Christian movement grew in the shadow of the Roman Empire, despite all of the persecution and trials Christians were facing.

The early church grew tremendously in midst of incredible difficult circumstances and some of the bloodiest times of Christianity. How is it that this could happen, especially in the most difficult, suffering circumstances? How does this movement survive and thrive?

In this scripture from 1 Peter, he is saying that in the midst of the greatest persecution, people can still walk through this difficult time with hope. Peter went from someone who was full of shame, loss and fear to being full of a sense of hope and joy in the Lord. It is because of the resurrection taking place and Jesus' resurrection from the grave that changed everything. No circumstance was so painful that the resurrection was not able to speak into it.

The disciples knew this and in the midst of all of their trial and circumstances, they were able to pray prayers for hope, power and boldness. What if the same spirit that was living in Jesus and the disciples was here for you today? So that whatever circumstance or sorrow you were dealing with, whatever utter hopelessness you might be feeling, God bought you to New Life to tell you about this living hope and that it is here for you right now?

This is not a blind kind of hope but a living hope in the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

**When There is Seemingly No Hope.**  
**There's Always the Resurrection on The Other Side.**

The Christian faith is for these types of moments, that this living hope can shine through, that God is going to come through.

The Roman Colosseum was a place that depicted the power and triumph of Rome, where Christians were persecuted. But despite all the time that has passed since the Roman Empire being a place of money, wealth and military strength, the cross is still standing. The name above all names is the name of Jesus, and the cross still stands.

Whatever situation you find yourself in today know that today the cross still stands in the middle of the colosseum. The God of the universe can turn your hopelessness into this living hope that we all desperately need in our lives.

**Sermon Summary:**

This Sunday, Drew Hyun, Founding Pastor of Hope Church NYC, shares a message with us on When there Is No Hope. Today Pastor Drew examines how the early church preserved and thrived in the midst of challenges and difficulty, and how we can be equipped to preserve and press forward today.

**Sermon Questions:**

1. How does this scripture connect for you the topic that was discussed today? What words resonate with you? Why?
2. In your family of origin, did you grow up in a home where you felt as though your life situation was hopeless, not knowing if there was a way out? How does your experience influence whether or not you carry around feeling of hopelessness today? Find time this week to journal about your experience and where you are today, offering this up to God.
3. Have you ever experienced a season of hopelessness? Have you been there before or are you there now? Feeling like you were going to get over the mountain but end up getting some type of news that changed your perspective? Know that we all experience these times. If this is where you are right now, find time this week to reach out to someone, sharing why you are feeling this way, knowing that you are not alone in your time of difficulty.
4. How do you feel when you here that the God of the universe can turn your hopelessness into a living hope? Can you believe that this living hope is for you? One way that we can receive this is by praying for one another. Is there someone you know who you can pray for this week? Or if you are feeling hopeless, can you reach out to a brother or sister in Christ and ask them to pray for you and over you?