

How Is Your Vision?

The world tells us: “Seeing is believing,” and “Show me and I will believe.” The Bible tells us: “Believe and **then** you will see.” Do we believe in things that we can’t see? Even though we can’t see oxygen in the air we believe it is there, and we breathe in in faith. We can’t see gravity but we have faith that it is there. If I drop something a million times, we know it will drop to the ground a million times. God has a definition of faith in the Bible in Hebrews 11:1 “*Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.*” The important thing about faith is where it is directed. Or, more importantly, in Whom is it directed. Faith placed in Christ is never misplaced. Faith exercised results in hope realized. Faith exercised results in hope enjoyed.

When a person has no hope, when they are truly hopeless, I am very concerned for them. But even with that great concern I know there is an answer to restore the hope that has been lost! This has been a very difficult time for all of us. We have lost many things, but we do not have to lose our hope. It can be restored as we look to the One Who is the source of hope. God has something better for us. He wants us to abound and even flourish in hope. The hope that God gives is not a percentage or a probability—“I hope it doesn’t rain today;” “I hope I don’t run out of gas before I get to the gas station.” God’s hope is an assurance, even as we sing a “Blessed Assurance.” Sometimes when the “storms of life” come, we pray and God **calms the storm**. Other times we pray, and God allows the storm to rage on but He **calms the child** in the midst of the storm. God will get us through this storm. Faith exercised results in hope realized. Faith exercised results in hope enjoyed!! May our vision be focused on the blessed assurance of hope through Christ.

I continue to lift all of you in prayer to the God of Hope.
Love in Christ,
Chaplain Todd

