

# The Connection

## Messages of Hope



**HOPE**  
CHURCH | RALEIGH  
WORSHIP . GROW . SERVE .

A Weekly Online Newsletter: Edition 725

April 5, 2023

## “Do We Have the Boldness to Share the Gospel?”

Our prayer focus at HOPE Church Raleigh this week is the boldness to share the gospel. Our key verses to reflect on are from – Matthew 28:16 – 20; Romans 8. I hope you are praying this week for the Holy Spirit to give you opportunity to be Jesus’ hands, feet, and voice for the gospel in our lost world.

There is no question that Jesus expects us, as Christians, to share the good news of the gospel. I had a pastor tell me once, “What don’t you understand about GO?” He said, “Jesus commanded it! It’s Good News! GO!” Well, just so that you can read it for yourself, here are Jesus’ words.

**Matthew 28:16-20:** But the eleven disciples proceeded to Galilee, to the mountain which Jesus had designated. When they saw Him, they worshiped Him; but some were doubtful. And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

What is it that we GO and SHARE? Well, here it is in Romans 8. Such a great chapter of scripture. It tells the story of Jesus, of forgiveness, of Grace, of Salvation, of Intercession, of Assurance. If we are Believers in Jesus and what He has done for us, shouldn’t we have boldness to share this Good News? Read through this message again as a reminder.

**Romans 8:** “Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For what the Law could not do, weak as it was through the flesh, God did: sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and as an offering for sin, He condemned sin in the flesh, so that the requirement of the Law might be fulfilled in us, who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who are according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who are according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace, because the mind set on the flesh is hostile toward God; for it does not subject itself to the law of God, for it is not even able to do so, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him. If Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, yet the spirit is alive because of righteousness. But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you. So then, brethren, we are under obligation, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh— for if you are living according to the flesh, you must die; but if by the Spirit you are putting to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, “Abba! Father!” The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him so that we may also be glorified with Him. For I consider that the sufferings of this present

time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us. For the anxious longing of the creation waits eagerly for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself also will be set free from its slavery to corruption into the freedom of the glory of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation groans and suffers the pains of childbirth together until now. And not only this, but also we ourselves, having the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our body. For in hope we have been saved, but hope that is seen is not hope; for who hopes for what he already sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, with perseverance we wait eagerly for it. In the same way the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words; and He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose. For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren; and these whom He predestined, He also called; and these whom He called, He also justified; and these whom He justified, He also glorified. What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him over for us all, how will He not also with Him freely give us all things? Who will bring a charge against God’s elect? God is the one who justifies; who is the one who condemns? Christ Jesus is He who died, yes, rather who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? Just as it is written,

“For Your sake we are being put to death all day long;  
We were considered as sheep to be slaughtered.”

But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Tomorrow night many around the world will gather for a Maundy Thursday Service. Some will have a foot washing service. Others, a Communion service. Still others, the Seven Last Words of Jesus. Friday, many churches are open for prayer or will have a Good Friday worship service. Holy Saturday, much is quiet. But then on the first day of the week, the third day, the Lord’s Day, Resurrection Day, Easter, we will celebrate. Our Lord, our Savior has RISEN!!! Once again we will celebrate and remember, the tomb is empty. Folks, we have so much to be thankful for and so much to share. Let us tell of the wonderful things of Christ Jesus in whom we trust and believe.

Blessings my friends,  
Pastor Marty - HOPE Church Raleigh  
Worship . Grow . Serve

# HOPE Calendar

Wednesday, April 5

Worship Team Practice @ 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, April 6

Worship Team Practice @ 5:30 p.m.

Maundy Thursday Worship  
@ 7:00 p.m.

Friday, April 7

**Good Friday**

The Sanctuary is open for Prayer  
From 6:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 8

The Computer Lab @ 9:00 a.m.

Sunday, April 9

**Easter Sunday**

Worship Team Practice @ 8:00 a.m.

Worship @ 9:30 a.m.

Extended Fellowship

Monday, April 10

Easter Monday - Office Closed

## Helping Hands Ministries

**Fellowship - April 9**

*Church is Providing*

**ProPresenter - April 9**

*Bill Joyner*

**Soundboard - April 9**

*Bill Joyner*

**Live Steaming - April 9**

*Diane Williams*

**Communion April**

*Elizabeth Floyd*

**Greeter - April 9**

*Joan Rollinson*

**Nursery Volunteer - April 9**

*Terry Duffell*

Scripture Text and Sermon

**EASTER SUNDAY**

Luke 24:1 - 12

*"Why Do You Seek the Living  
Among the Dead?"*

## Daily Devotions

### For This Coming Week

Apr 9	Psalm	94 - 95
Apr 10	Psalm	96 - 98
Apr 11	Psalm	99 - 101
Apr 12	Psalm	102 - 103
Apr 13	Psalm	104
Apr 14	Psalm	105
Apr 15	Psalm	106



## Outreach Ministries

### March "Food of the Month"

for the Raleigh Dream Center  
Food Pantry

### Boxed Cereal

We have a collection bin in the foyer

### HOPE Meal Ministry

Take a meal from the freezer if  
needed for you or someone else.

### TLC Devotion

Today, April 26 @ 11:00 a.m.

### The Computer Lab

April 8 @ 9:00 a.m.

### Spiritual Growth Ministries

### WOMEN of HOPE

Saturday, April 22  
@ 1:00 p.m.

### 2023 Lenten Prayer Focus

A few days left. Please consider spending some  
time in prayer on that topic and scriptures.

**April 2 – April 9**

**Boldness to share the gospel –  
Matthew 28:16 – 20; Romans 8**

Next Confirmation Class

This Sunday, April 16

@ 12:15 p.m.

## Quote of the Week

"Christianity is not the removal  
of suffering, but the addition of  
grace to endure suffering  
triumphantly."

Thomas Watson

## Prayer Requests:

Those with Covid -19, The Drylie Family,  
Haswell Family, Revill & Mary Lane  
Mallory, Evelyn Doby Family, Jamie  
Baldwin, Donna Williams, Diane Williams,  
Carol & Colin (Kathy Herriman's Sister &  
Brother-in-law), Loretta (Sandi  
Underwood's daughter), Joan Summers,  
Jordan & Cinnamon (son and daughter of  
Lynn Joyner's family members), Tommy  
and Billy Lanphere (Lynn Joyner's  
brothers), Gene & Becky Hale, Dave &  
Dot Geil, Joy Forrest's daughter Haley,  
Carlyle and Cynthia Franklin (Sandra  
Pierce's dad and stepmom), Brian Adam's  
dad, our Military, our Missionaries, our  
Nation, and the world. If you have those  
you would like added to our prayer  
concerns, please email me those names.

## Wednesday Night Ministries

**NO**

**Wednesday Night Supper, Bible  
Study, & Prayer - April 5**

**Wednesday Night Ministries  
Will resume on  
April 12th**

## HOLY WEEK Schedule

### Maundy Thursday Worship,

April 6 @ 7 PM

### Good Friday

Sanctuary Open for Prayer  
from 6 a.m. to 1 p.m.

### Easter Sunday,

April 9 @ 9:30 AM

Please bring some Cut Flowers to

put onto the cross to create a  
Blooming Cross for Easter

**NO Sunday school on Easter**

**HOPE Church Raleigh**

**An Evangelical Presbyterian Church**

4911 Green Rd

Raleigh, NC 27616

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**Worship Time: 9:30 AM**

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in the search box)