

*For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. (rf. [Heb. 4:12](#) NASB)*

*My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge.  
(rf. [Hos. 4:6](#) NASB)*

I have read several times over the past few months of ministers teaching from Jesus' Sermon on the Mount and receiving a lot of negative criticism for sharing this text of God's Word with His people. Almost to a pastor the negative responses were charges of "wokeness". Some of those listening to the message, but, especially, the text itself accused the ministers of sharing "liberal talking points" and wanted nothing to do with the minister or the Scripture passages anymore.

Personally, I had a difficult time wrapping my mind around such a response to God's Word. The intent of the Scriptures is to convict, encourage, direct and comfort. Since we are sinners by nature, we always have the need to be convicted when we transgress God's commands and violate His holiness. We need encouragement when we stumble or are overwhelmed by our circumstances and the Lord provides us the "balm" that is required to get us back on our feet again. God has purposefully placed His wisdom in the text so that we might follow it and have lives pleasing to Him and smoother paths to walk. He gives us the comfort we need when we are overcome by sorrow and pain. His Word provides us the reassurance that He will always live up to His promise to "*never leave us nor forsake us*" (rf. [Heb. 13:5](#)).

The words of Hosea as quoted above should both give us pause in consideration and encourage us to more diligent study of the Scriptures. It is plain from the holy Text that ignorance of God's Word is a curse and definitely not "bliss". We are most blessed in this particular time to have multiple copies of the Bible in various translations residing in our homes. Never in human history has so much Christian and Bible information been so available to any and everyone. Of all generations of Christians, we will be held most accountable for not knowing, reading and following God's Holy Word!

Rather than rebelling against the teachings of Scripture (as did the hearers of the Sermon on the Mount), we should receive His Word as a rebuke when we are out of alignment with it, as a medicine when in our conviction we feel the loving care of our Heavenly Father endeavoring to heal the rift between us, and as a preventative of wisdom to keep us from falling into sin once again.

Let us then treasure the Scriptures to our eternal and spiritual benefit. Let us commit ourselves to reading and studying it daily for nourishment and encouragement along this difficult path of life. Let us glean its truths and wrap ourselves in the warmth of the hope it provides. Let us thank Almighty God for loving us enough to give us such ready access to His written Word.

*Pastor Chris*

# HOPE Calendar

Wednesday, April 8th

Supper at 6:15 pm

At 7 pm the Study of the Church and the Last Days, followed by Prayer

Sunday, April 12th

Worship Team Practice

@ 8:30 am

Worship @ 10:00 am

11:15 am Fellowship

11:30 am Sunday School/Pastor's AfterChat

12 noon Regular Session meeting

Wednesday, April 15th

Supper at 6:15 pm

At 7 pm the Study of the Church and the Last Days, followed by Prayer

## OPPORTUNITIES TO GROW

### Women of HOPE

Meetings generally at HOPE on the second and fourth Saturdays every month from 10 am to Noon.

Next Meeting: April 11th at HOPE Church (with Bible study —See note below)

### Raleigh Dream Center Food Pantry

“Food of the Month”

#### Cereals

The collection bin is in the foyer

## Prayer Requests:

The Ernest Mbeng family, Jordan Stevens, Kathy Herriman, Gene and Becky Hale, Erin's parents & brother, Burton, Pastor Chris & Lori King, Sandi Underwood family, Donna (Joan's friend), Patty Moyer & son, Brandon, Jerry Kinard, Alice Kinard (transplant possibilities), Tom & Donna Williams, Ron Clifton, Phil Parton, Krishana, Sam, Rachel & children, Joan Rollinson, Dianne Reinoso, Cindy, Barbara (stroke), HOPE Children & Youth ministries, Peggy Karpenske, Claudia in Idaho, Dave & Dot Geil, Corbin Broome, Mallory family, Carol and Colin, Tommy, Skip, Loretta, Joan Summers, Janice Worthington, Donna Abel, Pastor Marty & Terry Duffell, Laura Bradshaw (stroke recovery), Tom Klein, future plans & growth (spiritual & numerical) for HOPE Church Raleigh!

## Helping Hands Ministries for April 12, 2026

### Live Streaming

Diane Williams

### Soundboard

Bill Joyner

### ProPresenter

Dianne Reinoso

### Communion Preparation

Lynn Joyner

### Nursery

Al & Elizabeth Floyd

### Communion Assistant

Rev. Jerry Kinard

### Prayer Support

RE Becky Hale

### Welcome, Announcements and Scripture Reading

Rev. Jerry Kinard

*Let a man regard us in this manner, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. In this case, moreover, it is required of stewards that one be found trustworthy. (rf. 1 Cor. 4:1-2 NASB)*

## OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

### TLC Devotion

On Wed. April 29th at 11 am @ TLC

### HOPE Meal Ministry

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

### Next Sunday's Sermon:

Faith, Obedience and Generosity (Part One)

(rf. Gen. 14:18-20; 1 Cor. 4:1-2)

Pastor Chris King

To prepare for next Sunday, click on the link and be blessed!

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yxCb6l3jkis&list=RDyxCb6l3jkis&start\\_radio=1](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yxCb6l3jkis&list=RDyxCb6l3jkis&start_radio=1)

### SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

Meals for Wednesday Night Suppers  
Sound Board Volunteers  
Nursery Helpers

## Giving to the Ministry of HOPE:

Online via QR Code



Or on our website:

[www.hopechurchraleigh.org](http://www.hopechurchraleigh.org)

or by check made out to:

“Hope Church Raleigh” and dropped in plate during Communion

*“Blessed be Abram by God Most High, Creator of heaven and earth; and blessed be God Most High, who has delivered your enemies into your hand.” Then Abram gave him a tenth of everything. (rf. Gen. 14:19-20 MEV)*

### Saturday, April 11th, 2026 @ 10 am

Come join the Women of HOPE as they continue in their study based on the book,

*Becoming a Woman of Grace,*  
by Cynthia Heald

If interested, contact Alice Kinard for further details.



HOPE Church Raleigh EPC

4911 Green Rd  
Raleigh, NC 27616  
919-508-6827

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