

HOPE For Others

April 2, 2023

Pastor Jerry Harris

We are to live with such strong hope that it will be attractive to others.

But even if you suffer for doing what is right, God will reward you for it. So don't worry or be afraid of their threats. Instead, you must worship Christ as Lord of your life. And is someone asks about your hope as a believer, always be ready to explain it. But do this in a gentle and respectful way." (1 Peter 3:14-16)

Tell the next generation about the glorious deeds of the LORD...so each generation can set its hope anew on God. (Psalms 78:4, 7) NLT

The scroll of Isaiah the prophet was handed to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where this was written: The Spirit of the LORD is upon me, for he has anointed me to bring Good News to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim that captives will be released, that the blind will see, that the oppressed will be set free, and that the time of the Lord's favor has come. He rolled up the scroll, handed it back to the attendant, and sat down. All eyes in the synagogue looked at him intently. Then he began to speak to them. The Scripture you've just heard has been fulfilled this very day! (Luke 4:17 – 21) NLT

So accept each other just as Christ

has accepted you; then God will be glorified. (Romans 15:7) NLT

Jesus came to earth:

Reason 1 - To love!

Jesus...left Judea and returned to Galilee. He had to go through Samaria on the way. (John 4:1 – 5) NLT

Jesus came to earth:

Reason 2 - To be accepting of others

Go and get your husband, Jesus told her. I don't have a husband, the woman replied. Jesus said, "You're right! You don't have a husband for you have had five husbands, and you aren't even married to the man you're living with now. You certainly spoke the truth! (John 4:16 – 18) NLT

Jesus came to earth:

Reason 3 - To forgive!

Many Samaritans from the village believed in Jesus because the woman had said, "He told me everything I ever did!" When they came out to see him, they begged him to stay in their village. So he stayed for two days, long enough for many more to hear his message and believe. (John 4:39 – 42) NLT

Dear friends, never take revenge. Leave that to the righteous anger of God. For the Scriptures say, I will take revenge; I will pay them back, says the Lord. Instead, if your enemies are hungry, feed them. If they are thirsty, give them something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals of shame on their heads. (Romans 12:19, 20) NLT

Judge not, and you shall not be judged. Condemn not, and you shall not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. (Luke 6:37) NKJV

