

PRAYER BULLETIN #129, 24JUL2021

GOD'S HOPING STRATEGY

*Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for,
the conviction of things not seen.
Hebrews 11:1*

REFLECTION

We all hope for the best in life. We look forward to good moments and want to avoid the painful ones. But life is full of ups and downs. It unfolds in ways that we cannot anticipate. How can we be assured of what we hope when we cannot see the future?

Popular culture offers many strategies to hope. Self-help gurus tell us to hope for the best by thinking positively so that everything will turn out well. Others tell us to use money and buy help to solve our problems. While others tell us to stay young and stay healthy, so that we can overcome our issues by our own strength and ingenuity. Unfortunately none of these strategies can assure the outcomes hoped for.

God has better way for us to be hopeful. He who is sovereign over all things calls us to put our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. For as we do so, His presence with us in every circumstance works in ways beyond what we can humanly hope for.

Through Jesus we have access to God the Father. As believers, we are adopted as God's children. He sends His Holy Spirit to dwell in us. He hears our cries and intercedes for us in every trial and tribulation to save us. In our lament He is always there to comfort us. He motivates us to act, to will and live according to His divine purposes. His steadfast presence and love during our ups and downs in life stir a deep conviction from within our hearts that He will always bring us through every situation.

So let us hope for the very best in life by placing our faith in Jesus. Let us follow Jesus as He leads us in our life journey. Let us turn to Him for the truth to guide our thinking and doing in every situation. We shall live with this Christ-centred posture in our hearts and minds, for a fulfilling life that God has purposed for us, even though we cannot see the future.

PRAYER

Lord Jesus, our hope is in You during these troubled times. For You are the Way, the Truth and the Life. Though the pandemic we dread has become an endemic, may Your Spirit guide us in Your truth to lead us in our daily life and

keep us from all harm. Though we cannot see what tomorrow brings, You see the present from the end. O Lord, rekindle our faith in You. Let us rejoice with You as You rejoice with us; hear our cries as we lament to You. Even though we can neither see You nor the future, let Your Spirit's presence remain with us always. Let our faith in You be Your blessed assurance to us, deep in our hearts. Amen

SUPPLICATION

- Pray for those who have not been fully vaccinated against the COVID virus, for the Lord's protection against any infection, and for the grace of good counsel to cope with life in such uncertain times.
- Pray for God's provision to those whose livelihoods have been disrupted, for wisdom to adapt to the post pandemic economy, and for the faith to press on in life.
- Pray for the leaders of every nation to fear God and act justly as they meet to map out new policies to improve the lives of all peoples equitably.
- Pray for the leadership of every church, for grace and wisdom to rekindle hearts for God in the new normal.
- Pray for wisdom for BRMC and its leaders to guide how BRMC will re-gather our flock to worship at the church premises.
- Pray for every believer to grow in faith and knowledge of God, for strength to live life fully in times of peace and uncertainty.

*Though the fig tree does not bud
and there are no grapes on the vines,
though the olive crop fails
and the fields produce no food,
though there are no sheep in the pen
and no cattle in the stalls,
yet I will rejoice in the LORD,
I will be joyful in God my Savior.
Habakkuk 3:17-18 (NIV)*

If you need any prayer or pastoral care support, kindly contact the pastoral care team via:

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