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Finding Hope in Hard Times
“Hope from Our Past”

(Part 2)

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I. We Find Hope in God’s _____

A. Embrace God’s forgiveness as all encompassing

*Col. 2:13-14 “You were dead because of your sins and because your sinful nature was not yet cut away. Then God made you alive with Christ, for **he forgave all our sins**. He canceled the record of the charges against us and took it away by nailing it to the cross.” (NLT)*

*Ps. 103:11-12 “For his unfailing love toward those who fear him is as great as the height of the heavens above the earth. He has removed our sins **as far from us as the east is from the west**.” (NLT)*

B. Embrace God’s forgiveness as _____

1 John 1:9 “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.” (NLT)

II. We Find Hope by Forgiving _____

A. We must apply God’s forgiveness to ourselves

Rom. 4:6-8 “David also spoke of this when he described the happiness of those who are declared righteous without working for it: “Oh, what joy for those whose disobedience is forgiven, whose sins are put out of sight. Yes, what joy for those whose record the LORD has cleared of sin.” (NLT)

B. We must stop trying to _____

Heb. 10:18 “And when sins have been forgiven, there is no need to offer any more sacrifices.” (NLT)

III. We Find Hope by _____

Col. 3:13 “Make allowance for each other’s faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others.” (NLT)

A. Forgiveness _____ from the offenders of our past

B. Forgiveness sets the standard for future relationships

Matt. 18:21-22 “Then Peter came to him and asked, “Lord, how often should I forgive

someone who sins against me? Seven times?" No, not seven times," Jesus replied, "but seventy times seven!" (NLT)

IV. We Find Hope by Embracing God's _____

A. Believe God has a destiny for you to fulfill

Eph. 2:10 "For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." (NLT)

B. Forget your _____ and reach for the _____

Phil. 3:12-14 "Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me.

Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do:

Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus." (NIV)

*Jer. 29:11 "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, **plans to give you hope and a future.**" (NLT)*