

From The Mountaintop to the Valley

Keeping your hopes up

Over a year ago a set of keys to our van went missing. I drove the van home from the doctor's office; left in the Jeep to pick up a prescription and "poof" they were gone. While there was considerable thought that the keys were lost forever I continued to maintain that they were simply misplaced and would eventually surface. A few weeks ago I saw a coat in the back of the closet that I rarely wear. In the pocket??? The van keys.

I never gave up hope the keys were still around even though repeated searches had come up empty. Hope, even in small matters, is a very powerful thing.

Why are you downcast, O my soul? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God. Psalm 43:5

The Psalmist clearly understood the power of hope. He used hope to combat the despair he felt in his very soul. We can use hope for the same purpose today. When work or relationships or the economy or life threatens to overwhelm us, hope remains a powerful antidote. Hope does not dwell on the past. Hope does not get stuck in the muck of the present. Rather hope is a forward looking feeling "that what is wanted can be had or that events will turn out for the best". And there is no better place to put that hope than in "my Savior and my God."

Keep your hopes up!



Thanks for all you do.

Brian

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