

DISCUSSION GUIDE

HOW TO GET HOPE
Romans 15:13
Not Ashamed (Romans) — Week 40

ICEBREAKER: What's the most dangerous situation you've encountered? How did you react?

OVERVIEW: The Bible says the three most important Christian virtues are faith, hope, and love (1 Cor 13:13). It's easy to understand why faith and love are at the top of the list. Faith is necessary for salvation. Love is the most important commandment. But where does hope fit in? What's so great about hope? In this discussion we are going deeper with the importance of hope and how to get it.

1. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain. (Or what was your key takeaway from Sunday's message?)
2. Sunday's text is one of the many "Pauline Prayers" found in his epistles. What is the benefit of studying Paul's prayers?
3. Philippians 1:9-11 is another example of a Pauline Prayer. Read Paul's prayer and discuss what we can learn from it?
4. Read Romans 15:13. What is Paul praying for?
5. How does the New Testament meaning of "hope" differ from the way we typically use the word today?

6. What exactly is the Christian's hope (in case this was not clarified in the previous question)? (For help, see Col 1:5; Acts 23:6; and Titus 1:2.)
7. How does hope benefit the Christian, i.e., why do we need it?
8. How can a Christian get more hope?
9. Do you think you are currently overflowing with hope? Why or why not?
10. What do you personally need to do to overflow with hope?

The Last Word: "Life is always richer when you have something to look forward to." J. I. Packer

