

### III. TAKE IN GOD'S LOVE

*"<sup>5</sup> Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us."*  
Romans 5:5

- A. No amount of suffering can separate you from the love of Christ.

*"<sup>35</sup> Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?"*

*<sup>36</sup> As it is written, "For Your sake we are killed all day long: We are accounted as sheep for the slaughter."*

*<sup>37</sup> Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.*

*<sup>38</sup> For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come,*

*<sup>39</sup> nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."*  
Romans 8:35-39

- B. Confident hope comes through embracing the fullness of God's love for you.

*"<sup>16</sup> And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever—*

*<sup>17</sup> the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.*

*<sup>18</sup> I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you."*  
John 14:16-18

*"<sup>3</sup> Because Your lovingkindness is better than life, My lips shall praise You."*  
Psalm 63:3

### EXPERIENCE THE GIFTS OF CHRISTMAS

#### Experience The Gift Of Hope

Pastor Steve Reynolds

#### Introduction:

- A. Welcome to the Christmas season! For some it is the most wonderful time of the year. For others it is the most difficult time of the year. But for everyone it can be a time of celebration if we all experience the gift of Jesus.

*"<sup>15</sup> Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!"*

II Corinthians 9:15

The indescribable gift of Christmas is Jesus and He is the gift that keeps on giving!

- B. Attend and Experience The Gifts Of Christmas Teaching Series and experience Jesus and His gifts of peace, hope, love, salvation and joy. Discover how to unwrap these gifts through this verse-by-verse study of Romans 5:1-11.

Dec 8	Experience The Gift Of Peace
TODAY	Experience The Gift Of Hope
Dec 22	Experience The Gift Of Love
Dec 23 & 24	Experience The Gift Of Salvation
Dec 29	Experience The Gift Of Joy

- C. **TEXT:** Romans 5:3-5

The Apostle Paul wrote, "*And not only that,*" (Romans 5:3a). He is stacking up the gifts of Christmas!

### EXPERIENCE THE GIFT OF HOPE

## HOW TO EXPERIENCE THE GIFT OF HOPE

Hope is rock solid faith.

*“<sup>1</sup> Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.”* Hebrews 11:1

### I. LIVE FOR GOD’S GLORY

*“...but we also glory in tribulations,”* Romans 5:3b

A. The presence of peace does not mean the absence of suffering.

*“<sup>33</sup> These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.”*

John 16:33

B. Hope is found in your ultimate purpose which is to live for God’s glory.

*“<sup>31</sup> Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.”* I Corinthians 10:31

*“<sup>20</sup> according to my earnest expectation and hope that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ will be magnified in my body whether by life or by death.*

*<sup>21</sup> For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain.”*  
Philippians 1:20-21

*“<sup>16</sup> Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in this matter.”*

I Peter 4:16

## II. GROW THROUGH GOD’S PROCESS

*“<sup>3</sup> ...knowing that tribulation produces perseverance;  
<sup>4</sup> and perseverance, character; and character, hope.”*

Romans 5:3c-4

A. You can just go through suffering or better you can grow through suffering.

*“<sup>15</sup> Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him...”*

Job 13:15a

B. Know that hope is developed during times of suffering.

- Tribulation grows perseverance.

*“<sup>2</sup> My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials,*

*<sup>3</sup> knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience.*

*<sup>4</sup> But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.”*

James 1:2-4

- Perseverance grows character.

*“<sup>6</sup> In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials,*

*<sup>7</sup> that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ,”*

I Peter 1:6-7

- Character grows hope.

*“<sup>25</sup> For I know that my Redeemer lives, And He shall stand at last on the earth;*

*<sup>26</sup> And after my skin is destroyed, this I know, that in my flesh I shall see God,*

*<sup>27</sup> Whom I shall see for myself, And my eyes shall behold, and not another. How my heart yearns within me!”*  
Job 19:25-27