

Hope

O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Look

We use words every day without necessarily thinking about them, which can often trivialize their meanings. Some words, however, transcend a simple definition. In our Christian tradition, many words go from simple to prismatic. Slowing down to understand the broader and deeper meaning of some of these words can help bring additional wisdom to our every day lives.

1. Describe something that you got lucky with recently. How did it come about? Were you expecting it?
2. When you are hopeful for a positive outcome to a situation, what do you do?
3. How does Hope differ from just wanting to be lucky or being simply optimistic?

Book

Psalm 78:1-7

This Psalm is written in the tradition of wisdom literature and was likely written during the exile. It weaves together historical context and prophetic vision.

1. Reflect on this Psalm and describe how it makes you feel.
2. Reflect on this Psalm again and describe how it makes you feel.
3. How do the thoughts and feelings stirred by this Psalm combine to inspire you and create Hope?

Took

Hope is inspired by Jesus and fueled by our faith community. It is a reflection of our ability to make choices and affect the world around us. Hope inspires us to act in the world around us.

1. Why is it significant that Hope inspires us to act?
2. What diminishes your own Hope?
3. What spark of Hope is in you right now that you can act on this week?