

john 15:4  
**A b i d e** in **ME**



Bible studies for disciples who make disciples

Loudonville Community Church

Volume 6 - Number 5  
The week of December 6, 2020

**Sermon Series: *A Thrill of Hope***  
**Abounding in Hope**  
**Romans 15:8-13**

[Icebreaker] What are some creative ways you are observing Advent this year?

*O holy night! The stars are brightly shining,  
It is the night of our dear Savior's birth.  
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,  
Till He appear'd and the soul felt its worth.  
A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices,  
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.*

Into a dark world, Jesus came bringing hope. Just when all seemed hopeless, and the time was right, God sent hope into the world through the birth of a Baby, who was Christ the Lord.

It is a given that we will experience difficult and painful times, but to get through them we must have hope. We hope the future will be better, but we often place our hope in the wrong things.

Without censoring your answer, fill in the blank: "If only \_\_\_\_\_ would happen, everything would be okay."

**Read Romans 15:8-13**

**I. Accepted in Christ (vss. 8-12)**

In the latter chapters of Romans, Paul has been appealing to all believers (i.e. Jew and Gentile) to affirm their unity in Christ. Those who are weak in the faith and those who are strong should welcome and accept one another. One of the purposes of the gospel is to bring Jew and Gentile together in united praise.

In verses 8-9, Paul gives two reasons why Jesus came into the world (note the phrases "**in order to**" and "**in order that ...**").

1. Verse 8 states Jesus was born a Jew. What is the reason Jesus became a servant to the circumcised?

2. According to verse 9, why did Jesus come for the Gentiles?

Paul builds his case that Jesus the Messiah came not only for the Jewish people but also for Gentiles by citing four Old Testament passages.

3. What stands out to you in these four OT announcements?

4. How do those prophecies impact you?

## **II. Abounding in Hope (v. 13)**

1. What does it mean for God to be called the God of hope?

Hope springs from three places:

- God is the source of hope.
- Believing is the condition for hope.
- Hope is a fruit of the Holy Spirit.

2. *Hope is not a what, or a when, or a why. Hope is a Who.* How does that change your perspective moving forward?

3. What does abounding in hope look like?

4. This Christmas season is difficult for many of us. How can you place your hope in God during this time?

5. How can you share this message of hope to others who still remain in darkness and without hope in this world?

Romans 15:8-13

<sup>8</sup> For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, <sup>9</sup> and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

**“Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles,  
and sing to your name.”**

<sup>10</sup> And again it is said,

**“Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people.”**

<sup>11</sup> And again,

**“Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,  
and let all the peoples extol him.”**

<sup>12</sup> And again Isaiah says,

**“The root of Jesse will come,  
even he who arises to rule the Gentiles;  
in him will the Gentiles hope.”**

<sup>13</sup> May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

**HOPE**

Sermon Notes: *Abounding in Hope*

Romans 15:8-13

**Read the Bible: Reading Plan for 2020**

Sunday, December 6 thru Saturday, December 12, 2020

2 Chronicles 6:12-42, 1 John 5, Habakkuk 1, Luke 20; 2 Chron. 7,  
2 John 1, Hab. 2, Luke 21; 2 Chron. 8, 3 John 1, Hab. 3, Luke 22;  
2 Chron.9, Jude 1, Zephaniah 1, Luke 23; 2 Chron. 10, Revelation 1,  
Zeph. 2, Luke 24; 2 Chron. 11-12, Rev. 2, Zeph. 3, John 1;  
2 Chron. 13, Rev. 3, Haggai 1, John 2