



# Be Encouraged: Hope Is in His Word

## Serving Leaders in Life

This article was written by Great Commandment Network. To view more from GCN visit [greatcommandment.net](http://greatcommandment.net).



**Pastor:** To lead most effectively during these turbulent times, it will be important to prioritize moments for your own **SPIRITUAL HEALTH**. Here's a short devotional to refresh your encouragement from God's Word.

*"You are my refuge and my shield; I have put my hope in your word" (Psalm 119:114).*

Amid the Corona crisis and all of life's uncertainties, hope can be found in Scripture!

God's Word has an amazing ability to encourage our hearts and buoy our hope. Like us, the disciples faced challenges and uncertainties. They faced a terrifying storm on the Sea of Galilee. Consider this word from Scripture:

*"He [Jesus] saw them straining at the oars because the winds were against them" (Mark 6:48).*

God's Word is our place to find reassuring hope. Scripture is what sustains us. It's the **bread of life** that provides promise. Romans 15:4 reminds us plainly:

*"For whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction, so that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope" (Romans 15:4).*



## An Experience With God's Word and an Encounter With God's Son

*"He always lives to intercede for them" (Hebrews 7:25).*

Imagine Christ laboring in prayer, interceding for His people. More personally, picture Him praying for you. Imagine that you are there to witness Him praying, as the disciples often did. As you approach Jesus, you hear Him fervently praying for the needs of your life and the burdens of your heart.

What does it do to your heart to know that Jesus, your Savior and Lord, loves you so much that He is interceding for your needs and praying that you might hear Him and yield to Him?

Tell the Lord what you are sensing in your heart:

*As I consider that You are praying for me—for the needs of my life and that I might hear You more clearly—it brings \_\_\_\_\_ to my heart.*

(For example: *joy, peace, gladness, thanks, excitement, awe, or wonder*).

Pause to pray, worshipping the Lord with gladness (Psalm 100:2).

Share with Him your thanksgiving and praise.

Since God's Word was written so that we would be encouraged, what encouragement can we find in Mark's account of the disciples' struggle?

We find hope in this scripture because Mark 6:48 reminds us that we have a God who sees us in our struggle!

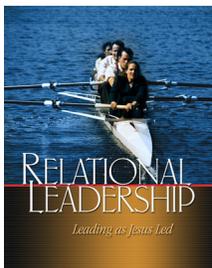
Jesus, who is our Great High Priest and the One who lives to intercede for us, sees our struggles with COVID-19 just as He saw the disciples (Hebrews 11:25). You might be weary of straining financially, relationally, physically, or spiritually during this crisis. You might be experiencing the tormenting waves of anxiety, a questioning faith, or unpaid bills.

Our hope is strengthened when we are reminded that He is near. Our hearts are encouraged when we are reminded that our Great High Priest is praying for us! The promise of Scripture and the prayers of our Savior combine to entice and empower us into a prevailing hope.

As Christ prays for you, He wants you to hear His Word.



Experience Christ using the *meditation* in the side bar. This is an excerpt from *Relational Discipleship*, a Great Commandment Network® resource.



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