

Lesson One HOPE IN UNCERTAIN TIMES

Call to Worship - Romans 8:18-27

1. When times are good

- a) Self-confidence, self-sufficiency and self-satisfaction prevail

- b) Hope seems unnecessary and irrelevant
(see Romans 8:24)

2. When times are uncertain

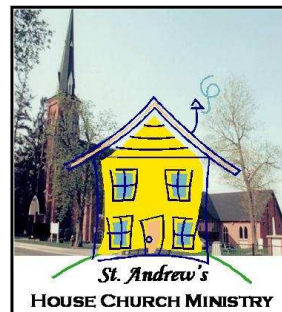
- a) Self-doubt and fear can stop us in our tracks
(see Proverbs 29:18)

- b) We need a perspective that looks beyond the present circumstance or condition

3. The New Testament encyclopedia of faith (Hebrews 11)

- a) Life is full of uncertainties

- b) Faith and hope are ultimately the only certainties in life



FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION

- For further personal reflection
 - To share with family or a friend
- For further study and discussion at House Church, a home-based, small group for learning and growing together.

Warm up: What are some of the uncertainties currently dominating people's minds?

1. Why does faith and hope seem to be unimportant and irrelevant when times are good?
2. Paul writes in Romans 8:24 the hope that is seen is not hope at all. Discuss how this is true or not true.
3. How does uncertainty discourage your daring?
4. Go through the list of people in Hebrews 11 to identify how faith and hope enabled them to overcome impossible circumstances:
 - a) Cain and Abel
 - b) Noah
 - c) Abraham
 - d) Abraham and Sarah
 - e) Abraham and Isaac
 - f) Isaac and Jacob and Esau
 - g) Jacob and Joseph
 - h) Joseph
 - i) Moses
 - j) Rahab

House Church will resume meeting during the week of February 5th on Monday & Friday evenings at 7pm (offsite locations).

- Please contact the Church Office if you are interested in attending via sapc@bellnet.ca or 905-826-2061.