

Oakland Church of Christ

Dec 8, 2013 – Kristofer Tripp

God Remembers You When You've Given Up Hope



What are you hoping for this year?

What are you praying for today?

What to do when you've given up hope

Keep living for God

Luke 1:6-7. Deuteronomy 6:4-5. Leviticus 19:18

Love God and love your neighbor as yourself.

Keep praying

Luke 1:8-10. Luke 18:1-8

And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? I tell you, he will see that they get justice, and quickly. *Luke 18:7-8*

Expect God to answer

Luke 1:11-17. Malachi 4:5-6

God's answer is "Yes" or "No" or "Wait"

Stick with people who will wait for God's answer with you

Believe that if it's important, it's possible

Luke 1:18-20. Luke 1:25. Luke 1:68, 72.

Digging Deeper

For the week of Dec 8, 2013



Answer number 3 before your group meets

- 1) What part of this weekend's message did you find to be most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain.
- 2) Most people tend to be hopeful optimists (the cup is half full) or doubtful pessimists (the cup is half empty). Which way do you lean?
- 3) God had been silent towards Israel for 400 years. Listen to Malachi, the last prophet of the Old Testament. What did they do right? What did they get wrong?
 - *Keep living for God*
 - *Keep praying*
 - *Expect God to answer*
 - *Believe that if it's important, it's possible*
 - a) Read Malachi 2:17-3:1. Jot down any insights, questions, or key observations.
 - b) Read Malachi 3:13-16. Jot down any insights, questions, or key observations.
- 4) When you're waiting for God to answer your prayer, which of the four actions is easiest for you?
 - a) Which one is the hardest?
 - b) What do you need to do as a result of what you've learned this week?