

## “Abundant Hope”

### A Study of the Book of Romans

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**Key Truth:** Christian Hope is grounded in God’s Word and produces joyful worship through the power of the Holy Spirit.

The Christian life is agricultural and not mechanical. Growth in Christ, both individually and in the church, is not a matter of adding or replacing components but of cultivating good soil, planting seeds, and producing fruit with patience (Luke 8:15b). If we have hope in God, no matter what happens in the church or the Christian life, Christ builds and sustains his people, and through his Word, constantly calls us back to himself. Moving from mechanical to architectural processes in the church and the Christian life will entail being filled with the virtues of joy, peace, and faith, and, at least in these verses, the virtue of hope – abundant hope.

## **DISCUSS**

Read **Romans 15:8-13** and discuss with the group a statement or concept that stood out to you or impacted you in the sermon entitled “Abundant Hope.”

## **DIG IN**

### 1. The Root of Hope

(Romans 15:8-9)

According to verse 8, what did Jesus want to show about his Father? Why?

Who are the “patriarchs” and what were God’s promises to them?

Why does God confirm his promise to the patriarchs (v. 9)?

In what ways is our Hope rooted in God’s truthfulness?

### 2. The Fruit of Hope

(Romans 15:10-12)

In what ways do both Jews and Gentiles have hope in God?

What do the prophecies concerning the Gentiles foretell them doing (vv. 10-1)?

Why is it significant that Jesus, the Messiah, is identified as the “root of Jesse” rather than the “fruit” of David (v. 12)?

In what ways is this hope produced agriculturally rather than mechanically?

### 3. The Abundance of Hope

(Romans 15:13)

In what ways is Christian hope different than worldly hope?

In what ways does the Holy Spirit enable us to abound in hope?

## **DO**

What lessons do you learn from these verses that you will take with you throughout the coming week?