



**Teaching Notes:** Ray Davis  
April 15, 2012  
**Life – there's an app for that!**

## desert breeze community church

### Ephesians 1:9-14 **“HOPE”**

You can live 40 days without food, just a few days without water, 4-6 min without O2, but not a single second without hope (Prov.13:12). Human beings are unavoidably hope based creatures. How you live in the present is inevitably shaped by what you believe about your future.

### Why We Can Have Hope? (Prov.16:9, 19:21, 21:30-31)

- **There is a plan** v9
- **Everything is in the plan** v11 Acts 2:23, 36, 27:22, 31; Prov.3:5-6
- **And Jesus is the point of the plan** v10; Phil2:5-11; John 5:39-40

### What is Hope? Confident Joyful Expectation

Heb11:1, 12:2; 1Tim1:1; vv3-14 10xs “in Christ”

- **My bad things will work together for my good.** Vv11-12; Rom.8:28; Gen. 50:20
- **My truly good things can never be taken from me.** vv13; Rom.8:29; Eph.1:18
- **And the best is yet to come.** v14; Rom.8:17-18, 30; 2Cor.4:16-18

Jesus Christ was torn apart on the cross so that your life could be put back together (holiness/wholeness) and eventually all things in this world will be put back together (no more sin, suffering or death).



# Growing

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- 1)** Human beings are unavoidably hope based creatures. How you live in the present is inevitably shaped by what you believe about your future (Pro.13:12). Explain. When in your life have you ever felt like giving up?
- 2)** Read Ephesians 1:9-14. You can't say anything is crooked unless there's a straight edge somewhere & you can't say life has meaning (there's a straight edge) if ultimately when we die there is nothing. Explain. Why can we have hope (vv9-11)?
- 3)** The Bible teaches historical events are determined by God (Sovereignty) through our choices (man's responsibility). How is this mystery seen in these verses: Acts 2:23, 36, 27:22, 31? How does an over emphasis on God's Sovereignty empty you of hope (Fatalism) and an over emphasis of man's responsibility fill you with fear? Balance is being alert but calm (Prov.3:5-6). Explain.
- 4)** There is a plan (v9), everything is in the plan (v11) & Jesus is the point of the plan (v10). What does it mean that Jesus is the point of the plan (Phil2:5-11; John 5:39-40)? How is the biblical definition of hope different from how we use it in our culture?
- 5)** What are the implications that my bad things will work out for my good (Vv11-12; Rom.8:28; Gen. 50:20), my truly good things can never be taken from me (vv13; Rom.8:29; Eph.1:18), & the best is yet to come (v14; Rom8:17-18, 30; 2Cor4:16-18)? Pray God fills us with hope.