

Lasting Hope
Traction – Part 1 of 3
April 20, 2025
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Easter is a celebration that...

- Jesus is Alive! (Luke 24:1-35)

- Because of Who Jesus is, What Jesus did, and what it Means, we don't have to stay hopelessly stuck!

Romans 15:13 (NLT)

¹³I pray that God, the source of hope, will fill you completely with joy and peace because you trust in him. Then you will overflow with confident hope through the power of the Holy Spirit.

How do I find lasting hope?

By making peace with God through Jesus Christ.

John 14:6–7 (ESV)

⁶Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

The Bad News...

- We are all sinners

Romans 3:23 (ESV)

for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

- The penalty for sin is death

Romans 6:23 (ESV)

For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Good News...

- **Christ died for you**

Romans 5:8 (ESV)

but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

- **You can be saved and rescued through faith**

Ephesians 2:8–9 (ESV)

⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

Jesus' Invitation...

Come as you are, but don't stay that way.

1 John 1:9 (ESV)

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Romans 12:2 (NLT)

Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, **but let God transform you into a new person** by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.