

## HOW TO OPEN YOUR GIFTS

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I. **Our attitude toward the future helps to determine our destiny. How will you open your gifts?: With fear or with hope?**

II. **Many, from newscasters to prophetic voices, are forecasting gloom and doom. Will you remember God is a God of \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Romans 15:13 (NLT)** <sup>13</sup> I 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.

**Definition of Hope:** (Gk) Elpis ...a calm confident assurance, that what is promised will definitely come to pass.

III. **How can we have God's outlook on the future?**

1.) Honestly \_\_\_\_\_ our worst fears.

**Psalm 42:5 (NLT)** <sup>5</sup> Why am I discouraged? Why is my heart so sad? I will put my hope in God! I will praise him again—my Savior and my God.

2.) \_\_\_\_\_ what God has done in the past historically and in your life.

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**Psalm 42:6-7 (NLT)** <sup>6</sup> Now I am deeply discouraged, but I will remember you—even from distant Mount Hermon, the source of the Jordan, from the land of Mount Mizar.  
<sup>7</sup> I hear the tumult of the raging seas as your waves and surging tides sweep over me.

(3) Hold on to the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of God in your heart.

**Jer. 29:11 (NKJ)** <sup>11</sup> For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.

**I Tim. 1:18 (NKJ)** <sup>18</sup> This charge I commit to you, son Timothy, according to the prophecies previously made concerning you, that by them you may wage the good warfare.

**Heb 6:18 (NLT)** <sup>18</sup> So God has given both his promise and his oath. These two things are unchangeable because it is impossible for God to lie. Therefore, we who have fled to him for refuge can have great confidence as we hold to the hope that lies before us.

IV. **Stay \_\_\_\_\_ to other believers and live in His presence.**

V. **Release hope to others regularly.**

**Col 4:6 (NKJ)** <sup>6</sup> Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one.