



#1 – The Thrill of Hope

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Hope is a \_\_\_\_\_ built by \_\_\_\_\_ plus \_\_\_\_\_ against all \_\_\_\_\_.

Hope is a *thrill*.

**Luke 2:8-9**

And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9 And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear.

Hope is a thrill built by *desire*.

**Luke 2:10-11**

And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. 11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

Hope is a thrill built by desire plus expectation.

**Luke 2:12-16**

And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." 13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, 14 "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!" 15 When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." 16 And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger.

Hope is a thrill built by desire plus expectation against all odds.

**Luke 2:17-18**

And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. 18 And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them.

Hope is a thrill built by desire plus expectation against all odds to overcome anything less.

**Luke 2:19-20**

But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. 20 And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

[Christmas] means not just hope for the world, despite all its unending problems, but hope for you and me, despite all our unending failings." ~Keller

**Luke 22:19a**

And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them...

**Luke 22:19b**

"This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

**Luke 22:20**

And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood."