

## A Song Of Hope

I was in unbearable pain. *I think you are asking too much of me*, I said to God in my head. *You are asking the impossible—I don't think I can do this.*

*Joni, there's your help*, the Spirit seemed to whisper. *God's promises. Stand on the promises of Christ your King.* That did it. I began repeating out loud every Scripture promise I could recall . . .

When we arrived at the office, something was different. My anguish had not lessened, but I had courage . . . He renewed me. Refreshed me. Encouraged me. His promises helped me do the impossible, and I no longer felt defeated.

(Joni Eareckson Tada, *Songs of Suffering*)

December 31, 2022 and January 1, 2023  
Andres Carias

## A New Hope

Hebrews 10:19-25

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### May 25, 1977—The World Changed

We have hope. Rebellions are built on hope.

(Jyn Erso, *Rogue One*)

All passages, unless otherwise noted, are from the New International Version of the Bible.  
You can download the free YouVersion Bible app that includes the NIV translation at your favorite app store.



## A Confident Hope

Let us hold *unswervingly* to the hope we profess, *for he who promised is faithful*. (Hebrews 10:23, emphasis added)

- \_\_\_\_\_ Is \_\_\_\_\_ Through \_\_\_\_\_.

. . . it just goes to show you, it's always something—if it ain't one thing, it's another.  
(Roseanne Roseannadanna, portrayed by Gilda Radner)

You and I might fall into a silent trap of placing our hope in earthly things, because, like other people, they seem tangible . . . But it doesn't work. It just leaves us continually longing . . . Jesus is our only hope, and it is through Jesus that we have the promise of eternal life. . . We wait with a trustworthy hope. And we know that our everlasting, true, and pure Hope will never let us down or put us to shame.

(Trillia Newbell, *If God Is For Us*)

## A Present Hope

- Hope Is \_\_\_\_\_ Through . . .

- \_\_\_\_\_

"Lord", Martha said to Jesus, "if you had been here, my brother would not have died."  
(John 11:21)

Sometimes the cancer is not cured. Sometimes the slum remains a slum. Sometimes the marriage fails and the friendship ends. Sometimes our hearts break. We suffer; we hurt; we experience loss; we ache. In the midst of these very real battles, Jesus speaks to us out of his own sorrow and grief to remind us that, in the end, hope will win. In the end, life will overcome death, joy will overcome sorrow, freedom will overcome bondage, and triumph will overcome loss.

(Scott Sauls, *Jesus Outside The Lines*)

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Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?"  
(John 11:25-26)