

The Thrill of Hope

John 5:1-8 | The Arrival

November 30, 2025 | Pastor Michael Foster

⇒ The crisis of hopelessness

- The paralysis of the will
- The danger of self-pity
- The tragedy of misplaced longing
- The blindness to God

⇒ The thrill of hope

- The thrill of being seen by Jesus
- The thrill of being loved by Jesus
- The thrill of being changed by Jesus
- The thrill of waiting on Jesus

⇒ The pivotal question: Do you want to get well?

Read Isaiah 9:1-7, Luke 1:67-79, Hebrews 6:19, Proverbs 13:12, Romans 15:13
Use this “Advent Guide” which is full of wonderful resources to guide you in the advent season – bit.ly/GuidesAdvent

And this is a great Advent Guide for young families – bit.ly/FamilyAdvent2025

Learn about the history of Advent – bit.ly/HistoryOfAdvent

Read “Hopelessness Leads Us to the True Hope of Christmas” – bit.ly/HopeOfChristmas2025

Listen to “Light of the World (Sing Hallelujah)” – bit.ly/LightOfTheWorld2

Listen to “Hope for Everyone” – bit.ly/HopeForEveryone

Listen to “O Holy Night” – bit.ly/OHolyNight2

Read *Come Let Us Adore Him* (Advent Devotional) by Tripp

NEXT STEPS

1. What stood out to you the most from the message?
2. What are some ways you have celebrated the Advent or Christmas season that have been meaningful to you and have helped you to draw closer to Christ? Any special traditions or memorable moments?
3. Read John 5:1-8. Put yourself in this man’s shoes. What do you think are some emotions he feels? Some questions he asks? Some temptations he faces?
4. Do you agree that we are “hardwired for hope”? What dangers do we face when we lack hope?
5. What are some symptoms that someone is experiencing hopelessness? Do you see indicators of a crisis of hopelessness in our world today?
6. Describe a time when you felt a sense of hopelessness. Describe what it was like to relate with God during that time. How was God working to give you hope?
7. Read Romans 15:13. Why can God call himself a “God of Hope”? What are some of the many ways God has shown why we can place our hope in Him?
8. Read Proverbs 13:12. In what ways has God fulfilled your deepest longings? What longings are you still entrusting to God to fulfill?
9. Read John 5:6. What does Jesus ask the man this question? Do you believe Jesus has ever asked you a similar question?
10. How full is your hope tank right now – low, medium, or high? Why? How might drawing closer to Christ in this Advent season strengthen your hope? How might you do that?

