A wish brings apprehension.

Hope brings expectation.

Biblical hope is a confident expectation God will do what He says He will do.

1 Peter 1:3-9

The Guarantee of Salvation (3-5)

- Through the resurrection of Jesus (3)
- Kept in Heaven (4)
- By God's power (5)

The Joy of Salvation (6-9)

- Even though grieved by trials (6)
- Knowing God will grow our faith in Him (7)
- Knowing God will grow our love for Him (8-9)

"Hope means hoping when things are hopeless, or it is no virtue at all ... As long as matters are really hopeful, hope is mere flattery or platitude; it is only when everything is hopeless that hope begins to be a strength." -G.K. Chesterton

"A "living hope" is one that has life in it and therefore can give life to us." -Warren Wiersbe

Discussion Questions:

- 1. In what or in whom do most people place their hope?
- 2. What is the connection between knowing (believing) what God has done verses 3-5 and rejoicing through hard times in verses 6-7? In what ways does knowing what God has done in the past (and will do in the future) affect our view of the present?
- 3. What kinds of trials have you experienced that tested your faith? What impact did it have on your faith? How did it grow your love for God?