



HOPE CITY CHURCH

*"Helping people experience the Hope
found in a life-changing relationship with Jesus"*

LOVE | *unconditionally* - **REACH** | *intentionally* - **TEACH** | *transformationally*

SERVE | *relationally* - **SEND** | *courageously*



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TODAY @ HOPE CITY CHURCH

October, 01, 2023

Worship Service - Spanish (*Rm D101*): **9:00am**

Bible Classes - All Ages: **9:00am**

Gathering in the Courtyard: **10:15am**

Worship Service - English (*Worship Center*): **10:45am**

Hope City Kids Worship (*Rm B105*): **10:45am**

Hope City Students Worship (*Rm E101*) **10:45am**

SERMON

The Importance of Prayer

Pastor Oscar Chavez

BAPTISM CLASS

We are inviting anyone who is interested in Baptism to please join the Baptism class on October 8 after the service. If interested in the Baptism class text the word BAPTISM to 562.444.1211 or sign up on our website under the events tab (hopecitychurch.la)

HOPE CITY WOMEN

The Hope City Women's Bible Study has kicked off for the Fall and will meet every Tuesday from 6:30pm – 8pm. Childcare is available. If you let us know you're planning to come, we'll send you a reminder text on Mondays. Looking forward to studying God's Word & growing together. Also, the Women's Retreat is coming up on October 20-22. Stop by the Connect Center if you want to sign up or receive more information about the retreat.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Cecil O'Dell (Missionary)	Sun	Oct 01
Cesar Castellanos	Tue	Oct 03
Sandra Molina	Sat	Oct 07

THIS WEEK @ HOPE CITY

Special Congregational Meeting	Sun	Oct 01	12:30pm
Church Leaders Meeting	Sun	Oct 01	12:45pm
Ironmen Bible Study	Tue	Oct 03	6:30pm
Hope City Women's Bible Study	Tue	Oct 03	6:30pm
Gonzalez small Group (Gonzalez Home)	Tue	Oct 03	7:00pm
Bible Studies (English & Spanish)	Fri	Oct 06	6:30pm
Hope City Kids & Students	Fri	Oct 06	6:30pm

COMING EVENTS

Baptism Class	Sun	Oct 08	12:15pm
Elder Meeting	Sun	Oct 08	3:00pm
LAUNCH SUNDAY	Sun	Oct 15	10:00am
Women's Retreat	Fri-Sun	Oct 20-22	
Kid's Adventure Club Program Kick-Off	Fri	Oct 27	6:30pm
Baptism Sunday	Sun	Oct 29	10:45am

LAUNCH SUNDAY POSTCARDS

Postcards, for our Launch Sunday on October 15, are available to pass out around the neighborhood. Stop by the Courtyard after service to pick up a stack for your neighborhood or outreach area.

HOPE CITY CHURCH ONLINE

Our new website – hopecitychurch.la – is live. Stop by and check it out. Also, Hope City Church can now be found on Instagram ([@hopecitychurchnorwalk](https://www.instagram.com/hopecitychurchnorwalk)) Come follow us and stay connected with what is happening at Hope City Church.



HOPE CITY
CHURCH

OCT 1 - 15

15 DAYS OF
PRAYER

- 10.1 pray we will be a people committed to prayer
- 10.2 pray our church is sensitive to the will of God
- 10.3 pray for staff & volunteers as they prepare for 10.15
- 10.4 pray for the people in your outreach area
- 10.5 pray for those who receive a postcard from HCC
- 10.6 pray for families at the preschool on our campus
- 10.7 pray for our HCC kids & students ministries
- 10.8 pray for our neighbors who don't know JESUS
- 10.9 pray for the city officials who serve in our city
- 10.10 pray for unity among our church leaders (elders / staff / leaders)
- 10.11 pray God would pour out his blessings on our city
- 10.12 pray we will see people surrender their lives to Jesus as they engage with us at Hope City Church
- 10.13 pray for the spiritual & physical welfare of Norwalk
- 10.14 pray we will live out our values (LOVE | REACH | TEACH | SERVE | SEND)
- 10.15 pray the name of JESUS will be glorified



Partnership Through Prayer

In the beginning of Acts 12, before Luke recounts in detail the story of Peter's release from prison, you will notice he starts by mentioning that Herod had just executed James. It seems that he is setting the two events in juxtaposition to one another, the only difference being prayer. What if the church had prayed for James as they had prayed for Peter? Is it possible that the story could have ended differently? Could prayer have changed the outcome of this tragic situation? Prayer does change situations because prayer is a fundamental way in which we partner with God.

The prophet Elijah is a great example of this principle. For three years and six months Israel had been plagued by famine until God promised the prophet that He would send rain. "And it came to pass after many days, that the word of the Lord came to Elijah in the third year saying, 'Go show thyself to Ahab and I will send rain upon the earth'" (1 Kings 18:1). But at the end of the same chapter in which the promise was given, we see Elijah praying for the fulfillment of the promise. He cast himself down on the ground and put his face between his knees. Seven times he sent his servant to look for any sign of rain, and in the meantime, James 5:17 tells us that he "prayed earnestly."

One might wonder why Elijah needed to pray at all if God had already promised that He would send the answer? But Elijah understood that the promise required partnership through prayer. Prayer is a partnership between heaven and earth that is exercised when God's people agree with the purposes of God and pray those purposes into being in the earthly realm. Oh, how many promises there are to the child of God who will only take a hold of them earnestly through faith and prayer. Yes! Prayer does matter. It has the power to change the world.
