Morning Lesson

THE MYSTERY OF HOPE 1 Pet. 1:3-5

INTRO:

- 1. Words are powerful, yet we often use them without much thought as to what they mean.
- 2. *Hope* is one of those words.
- 3. There is a big difference in how the world defines hope and how God reveals true hope.

I. HOPE IS A PERSON.

- A. Hope is not a dream, a wish, or even a situational reality.
- B. God lays out the true meaning of hope. Col. 1:15-27

II. AUTHENTIC CHRISTIANITY IS A MYSTERY TO MANY PEOPLE.

- A. This is because Christ is a mystery. Col. 2:1-3
- B. The good news that we share with the world is the mystery of Christ. **Col. 4:2-4**
- C. Because the Christian is in an intimate personal relationship with Christ, we are a mystery to the world.
- D. Christ does not make worldly sense and until a person comes to know Him, they cannot understand hope.

III. WHAT ARE WE DOING WITH THIS HOPE?

- A. Paul concludes with this though in verse 28. Col. 1:28
- B. Jesus Christ is our hope and there is no hope apart from him.
- C. We must share the truth found in the gospel: Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. **John 14:6**

CONC:

- 1. Christians are meant to be different.
- 2. We are to be salt and light. Matt. 5:13-16
- 3. We are in good company because it is not us, but Christ living in us. **Gal. 2:20**
- 4. God's goal is to make us like Christ.
- 5. Exactly how does He do it?
 - 6. That is a mystery to the world, but that is our hope in which we live every day.