

The Mystery of Hope

<u>Isaiah</u> 55: 8-9

My thoughts are nothing like your thoughts, says the Lord. And my ways are far beyond anything you could imagine. For just as the heavens are higher than the earth, So my ways are higher than your ways. And my thoughts higher than your thoughts.

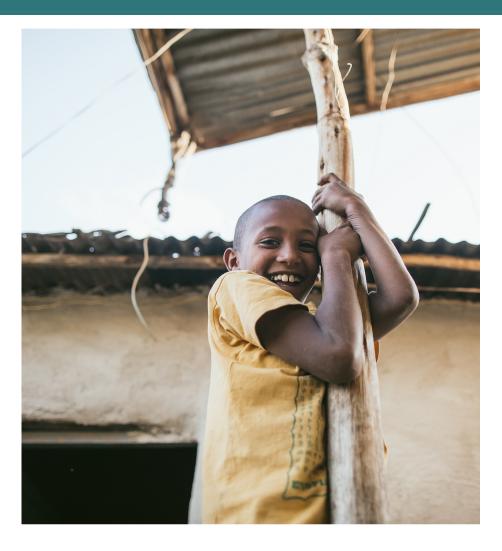


The funny thing about hope is that it is so difficult to pin down.

All we need is a glimpse that things might change, and we can start to hope again. There is a Divine plan we are not privy to, which is always at work in our own lives and in the lives of those on the other side of the world.

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WE never know how things are going to turn out, but isn't that mystery the most beautiful reason to trust God? We can hope that we will see change, we can hope that God will use us to change the world, but we can also recognise that God's ways are ultimately a mystery to us.

In Jesus, we have an example of what life could look like – where all are equal, and the world's systems and structures are turned upside down. We got a glimpse of it; let's use that glimpse to fuel our hope, and let's work together for a changed world.

PRAYER

'In Jesus Christ, your holiness has touched down in human life, remaking and reordering our values and expectations. Keep us restless and hope-filled and alive in the world, for the world. Amen'⁸

⁸Walter Brueggemann, A Way Other Than Our Own: Devotions for Lent' page 65.