

**Luke 1:26-55—The Promise of Hope**

*I Then Shall Live*—Gloria Gaither, David Phelps

I then shall live as one who's been forgiven  
I'll walk with joy to know my debts are paid  
I know my name is clear before my Father  
I am His child and I am not afraid  
So greatly pardoned I'll forgive my brother  
The law of love I gladly will obey

I then shall live as one who's learned compassion  
I've been so loved that I'll risk loving too  
I'll know how fear builds walls instead of bridges  
I'll dare to see another's point of view  
And when relationships demand commitment  
Then I'll be there to care and follow through

Your Kingdom come around and through and in me  
Your pow'r and glory let them shine through me  
Your hallowed name oh may I bear with honor  
And may Your living Kingdom come in me  
The Bread of Life oh may I share with honor  
And may You feed a hungry world through me. Amen.

**Hope As a Way of Life**

We carry the image of Christ within us, and bring His light and life into the world. Our lives demonstrate an uncommon grace—that frees our own hearts from despair, and promises extravagant hope to a waiting world. This week, allow the Holy Spirit access to the deep places in your heart and share it with someone.

Keep notes about the opportunities the Lord brings your way, and how His love offered hope to another person. May your spiritual victories bring joy and transformation to the world.

**Next week:** *“Captured by Grace” Louis Zamperini’s Story*

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**December 23, 2018** Fourth Sunday of Advent

**SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THIS WEEK:**

**Today:** *Psalm 80*

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**Monday:** *Luke 1:38*

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**Tuesday:** *Luke 2:1-20*

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**Wednesday:** *1 Samuel 3:15-21*

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**Thursday:** *Psalm 10:12-18*

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**Friday:** *Matthew 9:9-13*

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**Saturday:** *Acts 10:34-43*

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*You are my God, and I will give thanks to You;  
You are my God, and I will praise You. Psalm 118:28  
Teach me to do Your will, for You are my God. Let Your  
good Spirit lead me on level ground. For the sake of Your  
name, O Lord, revive me. In Your righteousness bring my  
soul out of trouble. Psalm 143:10-11*

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