

Hopes and Fears



Word

Romans 8:19, 24-25

For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope.

For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.



Faith Prints

Hopes and fears are not opposites. When you allow yourself to hope, you step out in faith and faith always must acknowledge that uncertainty is present. The pairing of hopes and fears is present during every pregnancy and birth; even the birth of Christ. God often reveals these hopes and fears during times of transition. As you become aware of your hopes and fears. How is God holding these hopes and fears for you?



Home Ritual

Take time daily to record your hopes and fears as they are revealed to you. Pray to God for guidance in helping you step out in faith as these hopes and fears are made known.



Pray

God of all hope, as we gather together, we give thanks that you came to us as one of us and you know our hopes and our fears. Hear now our hopes and our fears. Loving God, all these are met in you and are held by you. Hold us in this time of wonder and worry, and bring us your peace. In Jesus name we pray, Amen.



Treasure Chest

Anchor: God's Promises of Hope to Parents,
James B. Stenson

The Way of Wonder
Jack Haas

Trusting Enough to Parent: Replacing Fear With
Activetrust As You Raise Your Children
Wayne A. Hastings



I Hope You Dance
Lee Ann Womack



Notes to My Child



Reflection

The expectations you bring to parenthood are often based on your own experiences as a child growing up in your family. Your perception of these experiences will influence your approach to parenting which can highlight your hopes and fears. The imagined life of your child begins during pregnancy. Parenting involves a continuum of reflecting on hopes and fears. Sometimes while God asks for patience, you often ask for answers.

- Which of your hopes and fears do you believe are transitional?
- Which do you believe are a constant in your life?
- What hopes and fears do you feel you have carried since you were a child?
- What do you believe is God's message to you?
- How is God holding these hopes and fears for you?
- How will you use God's wisdom to help your child through hopes and fears?