

## SCRIPTURES ABOUT HOPE

From the beginning until now the entire creation, as we know, has been groaning in one great act of giving birth; and not only creation, but all of us who possess the first fruits of the Spirit, we too groan inwardly as we wait for our bodies to be set free. For we must be content to **hope** that we shall be saved—our salvation is not in sight, we should not have to be hoping for it if it were—but, as I say, we must hope to be saved since we are not saved yet---it is something we must wait for with patience.

Romans 8: 23-25

...we can boast about our sufferings. These sufferings bring patience, as we know, and patience brings perseverance, and perseverance brings **hope**, and this hope is not deceptive, because the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given to us.

Romans 5: 3-5

No one can hurt you if you are determined to do only what is right; if you do have to suffer for being good you will count it a blessing. There is no need to be afraid or to worry about them. Simply reverence the Lord Christ in your hearts, and always have your answer ready for people who ask you the reason for the **hope** that you all have.

1 Peter 3: 13-15

### Guadalupe's Words to Juan Diego

“Know, and be assured, my youngest son, that I am the perfect forever Virgin Holy Mary, Mother of the True God for whom we live, Creator of People, Lord of the nearness and the immediacy, Lord of Heaven, Lord of the Earth. I greatly desire, I greatly wish for my sacred home to be erected here, where I can show him, exalt him, by manifesting him: I will give him to the people with all my personal love, with my compassionate gaze, with my help, my salvation, because I am truly your compassionate mother,

yours and all who are united on this land. And of all the other different races; those who love me, those who cry out for me, those who seek me, those who trust me; because there I will listen to their weeping, their woes, to remedy, to cure all their different troubles, their misery, their suffering.”

“Listen, put this in your heart, my son, the youngest, that what frightened you, what afflicted you, is nothing. Do not let your face and your heart be perturbed; do not fear this sickness nor any other sickness, nor anything piercing, afflictive; AM I, YOUR MOTHER, NOT HERE? Are you not under my shadow and my protection? Am I not the source of your happiness? Are you not in the hollow of my mantle and the crossing of my arms? Do you need more? Let nothing else worry you, disturb you; do not the sickness of your uncle stifle with your grief, because he will not die of it now. You may be certain that he is now well.”

### Questions:

Are you open to accepting Our Lady of Guadalupe’s invitation to be a sign of hope “for our struggling world?” If yes, how will you actively be a sign of hope?

How do you persevere in hope when faced with pain and suffering?

In what ways do your experiences of hope help others and how have others been examples of hope for you?