Friday 27th March

Romans 15: 13

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

This is my prayer for you today. It’s a prayer that Paul prayed for the new church in Rome - a church that was under pressure through persecution. Take a ‘stock check’ of your hope levels today. If you had a measure on the side of you like a kettle, would it show empty? Half-full? Full? Or even overflowing? To be overflowing with hope would suggest that there is no room for hopelessness! There’s no more space left! Our God is the God of hope, and there is no hopelessness in him today. There is no situation about which he feels hopeless. I’m interested in the link with joy and peace. If we have the joy of the Lord as our strength, and his peace that passes understanding, we will know hope without measure!! He wants to give us these gifts today. And all this is undergirded with trust in the one who knows us, loves us, and holds us in his hands. That right there is a reason to hope!

*God of hope, we pray that this wonderful verse would be our experience today. As we put our trust in you we ask that we would be filled with joy and peace, and that we will be overflowing with hope, in such a way that others see that hope that only comes from you. We pray for our brothers and sisters in Christ. We lift to you any who feel hopeless today. Please draw near to them and fill them again. We pray for your people across this nation that we will be those who release hope when we are met with despair. We praise you for all the riches of your love that we know in Jesus! Amen*

