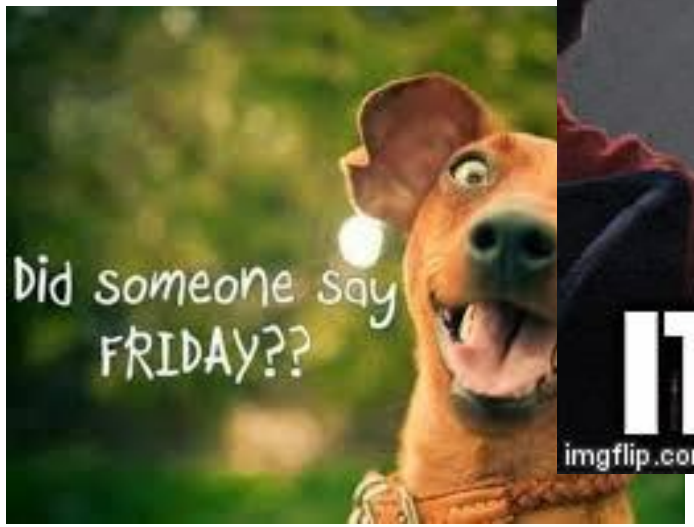

It's Friday !




BEHOLD
FRIDAY
imgflip.com


's been
rough
ek, but
made
...How
out you?


Did someone say
FRIDAY??


IT'S FRIDAY
imgflip.com

Hebrews 12:1-2

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, **who for the joy that was set before him** endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.


For the
Joy
Reawakening our
hope for the future

Does God use incentives to drive behavior?

incentive

/inˈsen(t)iv/

An incentive is an external reward, payment, or factor that encourages a person, team, or company to change their behavior and achieve a specific goal. It acts as a practical stimulus to drive action, effort, or better performance. Wikipedia +2

Common Types of Incentives

- **Financial rewards**: Cash bonuses, sales commissions, profit sharing, and stock options.
- **Non-monetary perks**: Extra time off, flexible hours, or special travel allowances.
- **Recognition**: Public praise, awards, or certificates of achievement.

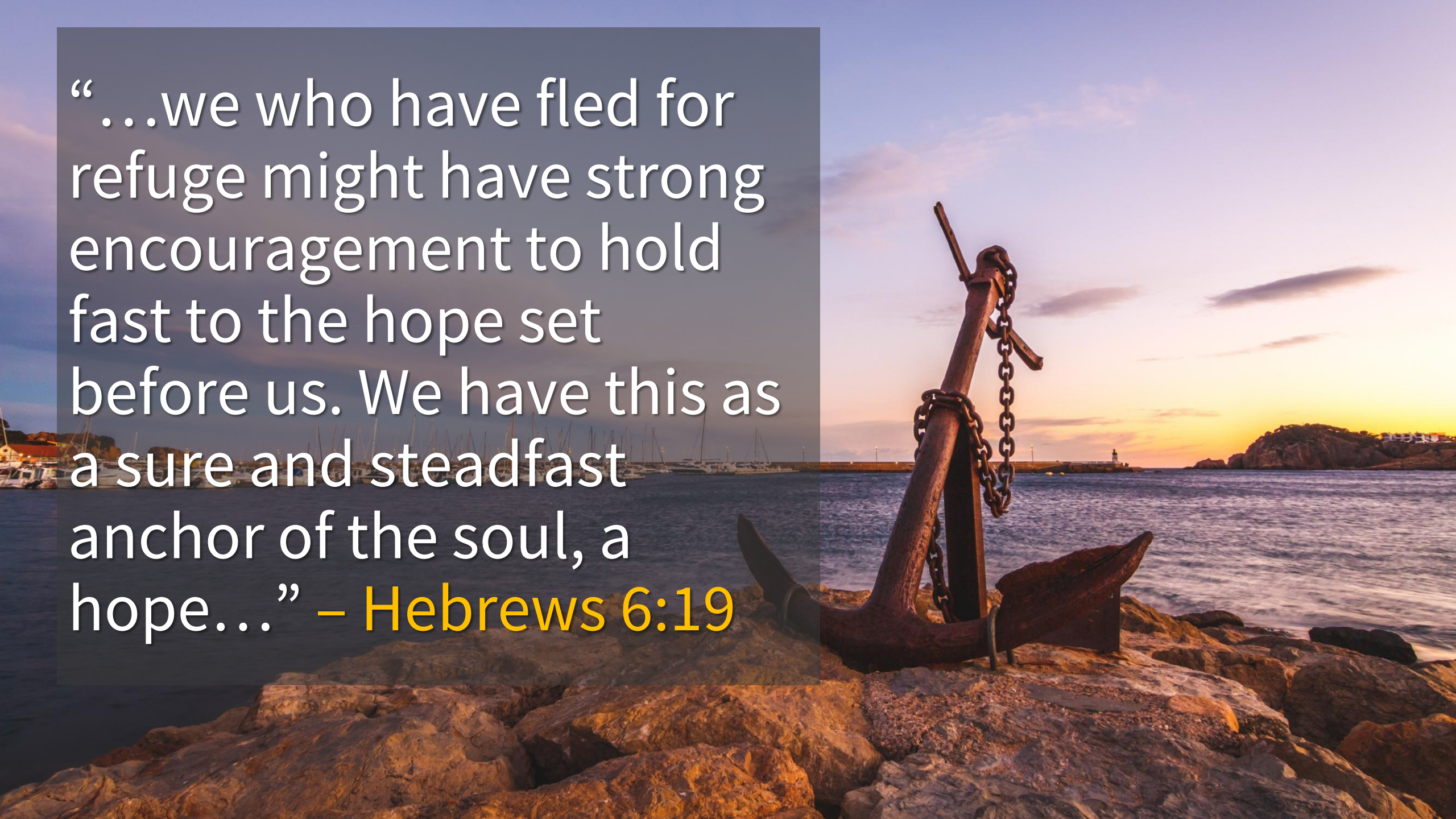
Matthew 5:11-12

“Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, **for your reward is great in heaven**, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Colossians 3:22-24

Bondservants, obey in everything those who are your earthly masters, not by way of eye-service, as people-pleasers, but with sincerity of heart, fearing the Lord. Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, **knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward.** You are serving the Lord Christ.

Without hope, we can't expect people to sustain the Christian journey.

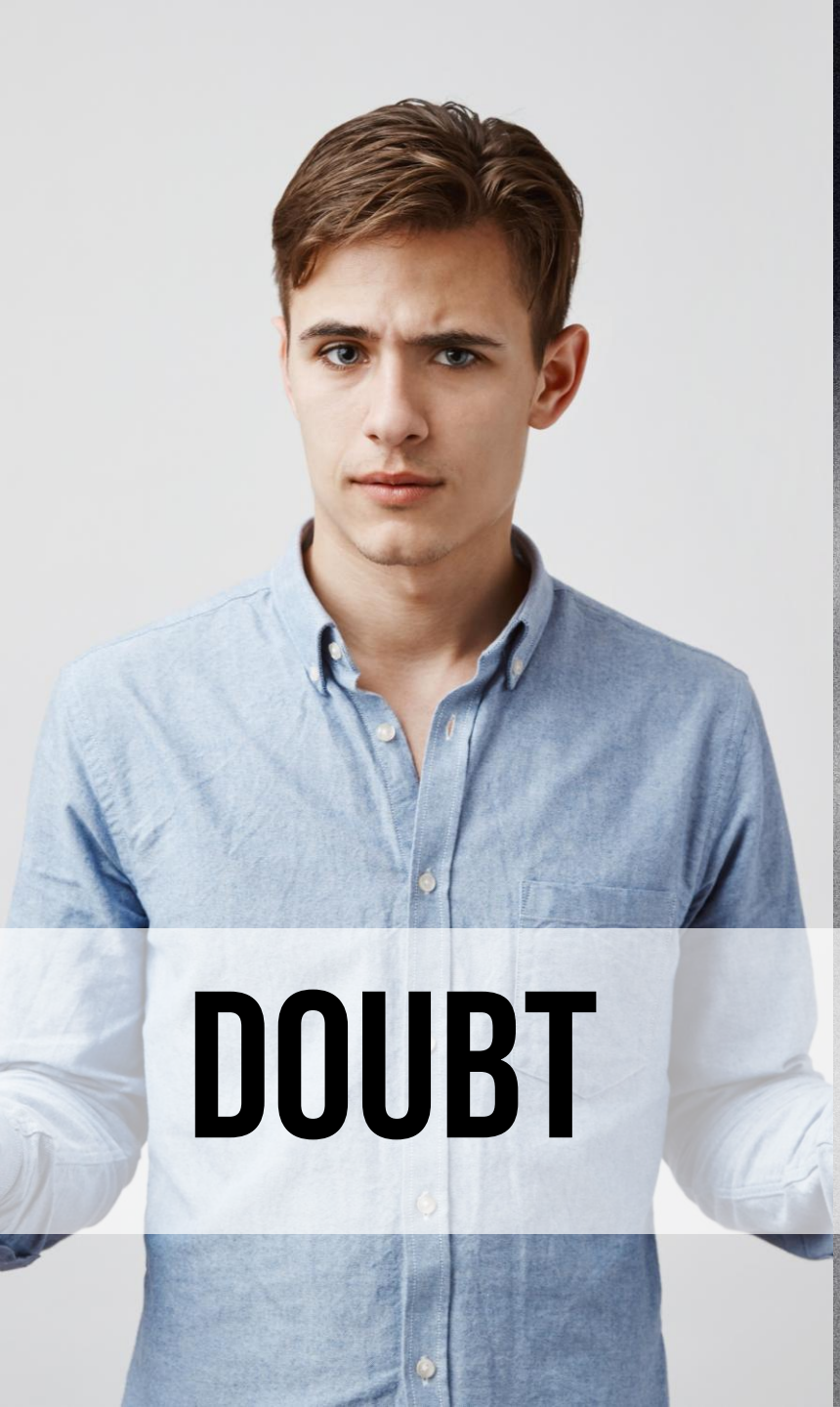

“…we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us. We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope…” – Hebrews 6:19

1st Corinthians 15:19

If we have hoped in Christ in this life only,
we are **of all men most to be pitied**.

God tries to use incentives (and punishments!) to help drive our behavior.


So why aren't we more
MOTIVATED?



DOUBT

UNKNOWN



WORLD



DOUBT

The fuel of hope is our faith. When our faith is weak, Heaven seems like a long way off, and doubt begins to take root.

We need to grow our faith through hearing and meditating on the truth that is in Jesus.

WASTED TIME
(Ephesians 5:16)

BAD INFLUENCES
(1st Corinthians 15:33)

SPIRITUAL IGNORANCE
(1st Timothy 4:6)

THE WORLD

It is so easy to get caught up in the enjoyment of the things here. We can get short sighted by the immediate gratification in front of us.

The things that the world chases after don't really bring lasting happiness or peace.

EVERYTHING ENDS
(Ecclesiastes 3:19)

HURT AND HEARTACHE
(Matthew 7:25)

THE VANITY OF BEAUTY
(Proverbs 31:30)

THE UNKNOWN

The way Heaven is described is pretty limited, or maybe in ways that don't appeal to us. How can I look forward to something that I don't even understand?

Heaven is described as having new and improved versions of the things that matter most to us:

RELATIONSHIPS
(1st Thessalonians 4:17)

ABSENCE OF PROBLEMS
(Revelation 21:4)

NEW THINGS TO ENJOY
(Revelation 21:5)

Romans 2:6-8

He will render to each one according to his works: to those who by patience in well-doing seek for **glory** and **honor** and **immortality**, he will give **eternal life**; but for those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, there will be wrath and fury.