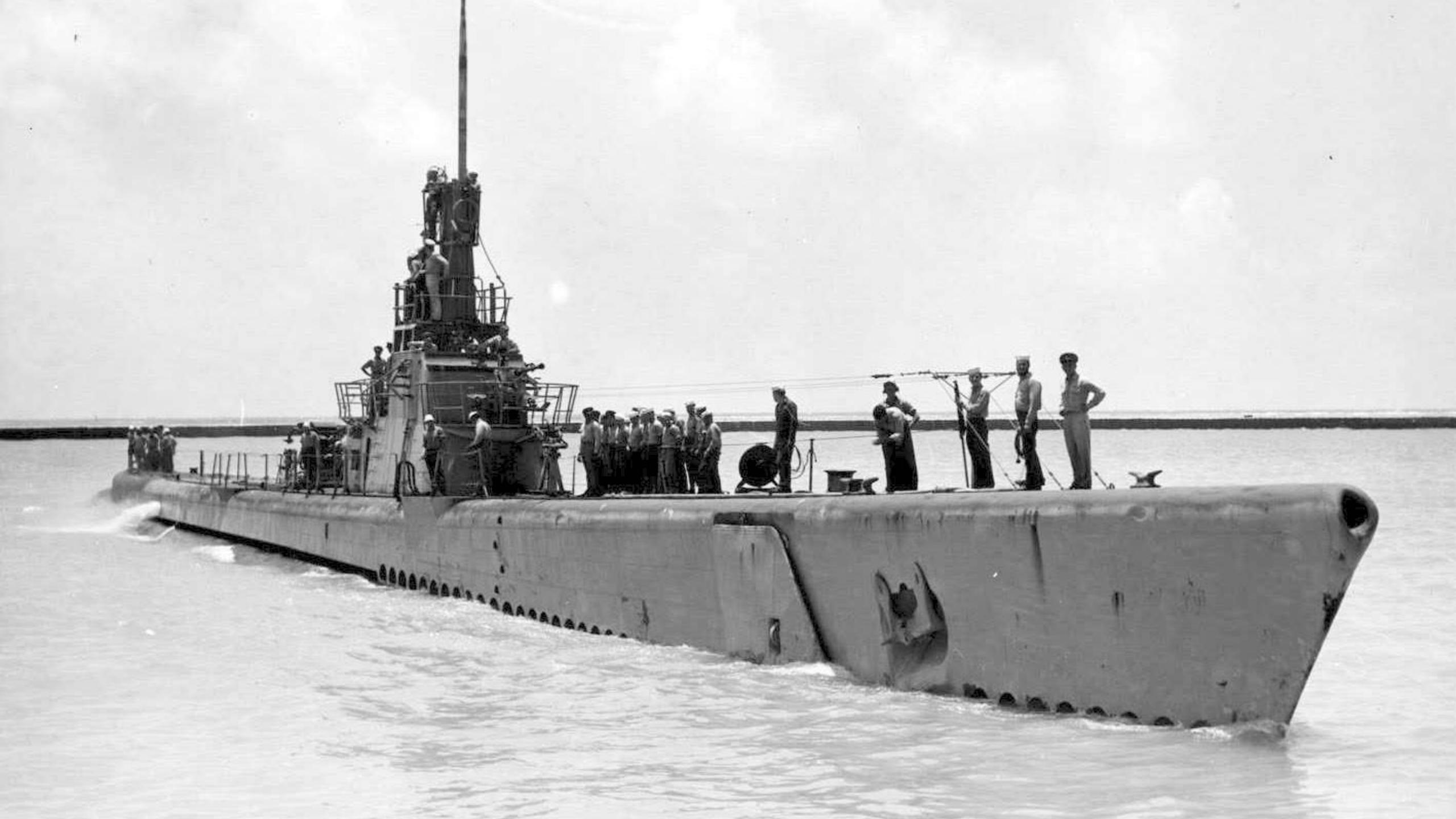


4. The Anchor of Hope





"Is there any hope?"

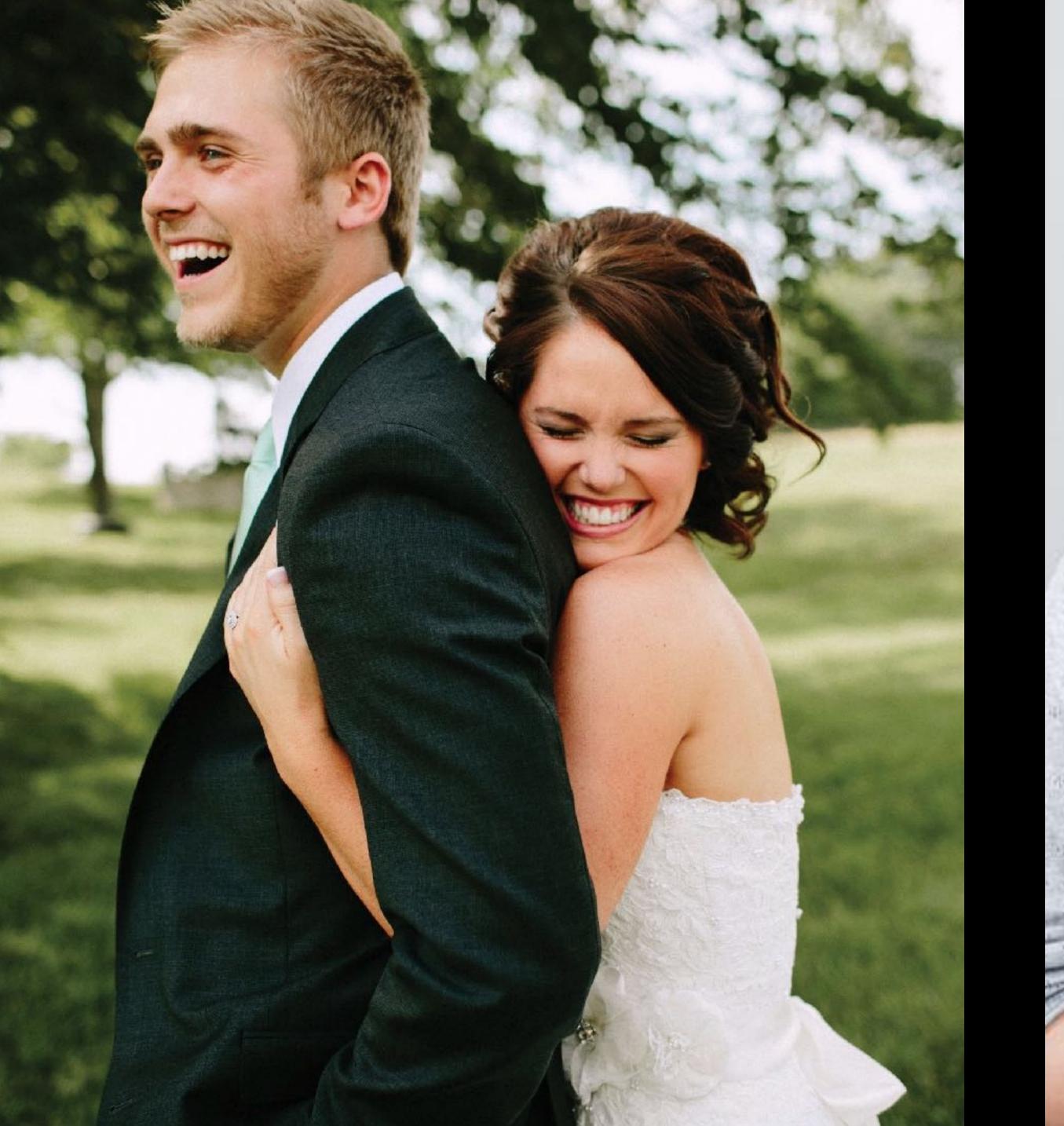


FIGE SOIL Camoi SUITHE WITHOUT

Proverbs 13:12

Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but a longing fulfilled is a tree of life.







- 1. a feeling of expectation and desire for a certain thing to happen
- 2. to want something to happen or be the case

biblical hope:

the confident expectation for good things in our future rooted in God's character and promises.

By hope, I don't mean wishful thinking. I'm not talking about "holding a positive thought," as one friend calls it. When I speak of hope, I mean the confident anticipation that goodness is coming. A rock-solid expectation, something we can build our lives on. Not the delicate and fragile hopes most people are trying to get by with.

Psalm 130:7

Israel, put your hope in the LORD, for with the LORD is unfailing love and with him is full redemption.

Jeremiah 29:11

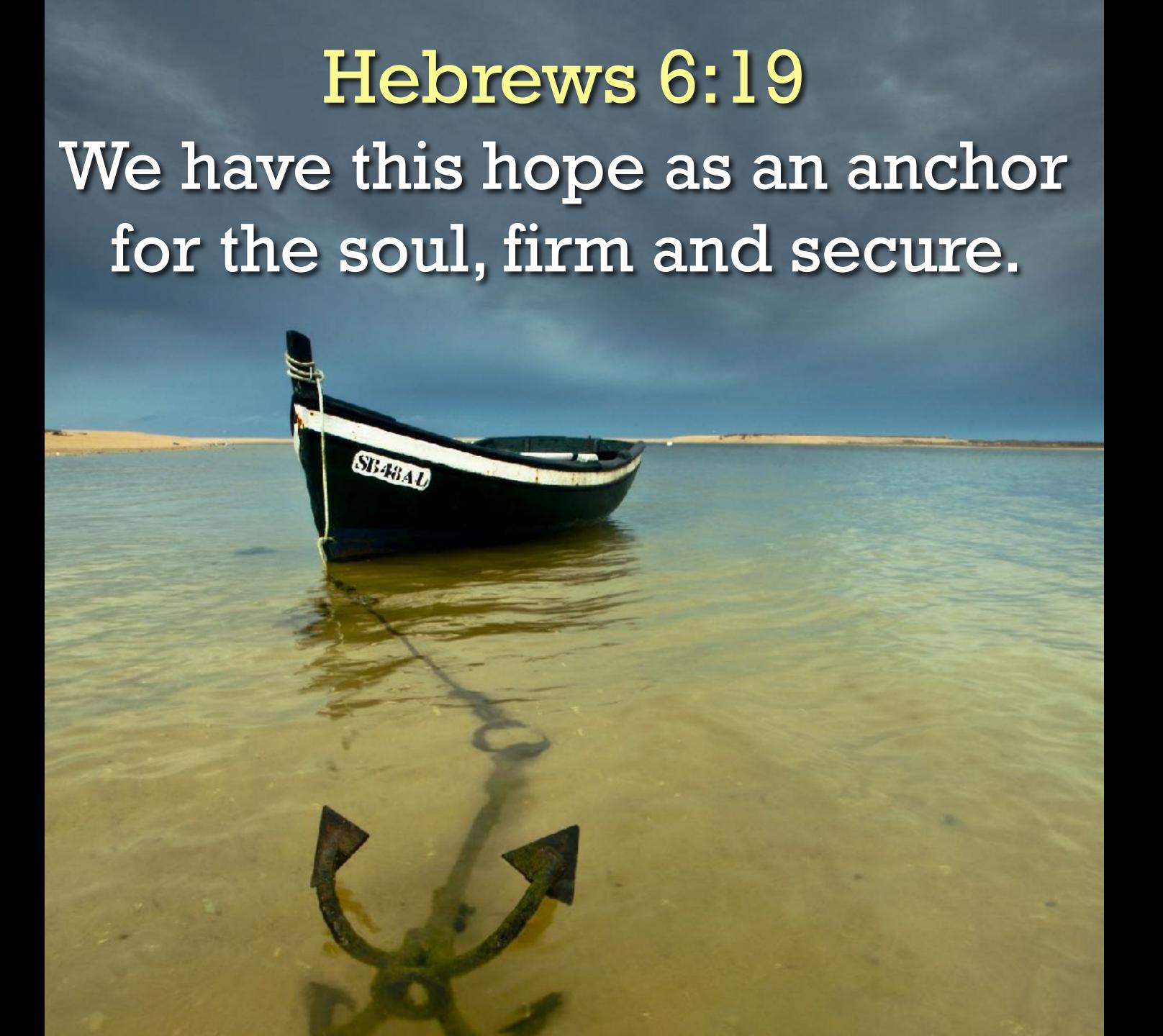
"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

1 Timothy 4:10

That is why we labor and strive, because we have put our hope in the living God, who is the Savior of all people, and especially of those who believe.

Hebrews 10:23

Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.



Henri Nouwen

Our life is a short time in expectation, a time in which sadness and joy kiss each other at every moment. There is a quality of sadness that pervades all the moments of our lives. It seems that there is no such thing as a clear-cut pure joy, but that even in the most happy moments of our existence we sense a tinge of sadness.

Henri Nouwen

In every satisfaction, there is an awareness of limitations. In every success, there is the fear of jealousy. Behind every smile, there is a tear. In every embrace, there is loneliness. In every friendship, distance. And in all forms of light, there is the knowledge of surrounding darkness.

Titus 2:11-13

For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, while we wait for the blessed hope —the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ

1 Corinthians 15:19

If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

Romans 8:22-25

We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our

Romans 8:22-25

bodies. For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what they already have? But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.

casual hopes

- 1. "I hope we have good weather for the picnic tomorrow."
- 2. "I hope you can make it to my party next month."

Romans 15:24

I hope to see you in passing as I go to Spain, and to be helped on my journey there by you, once I have enjoyed your company for a while.

2 John 12

Though I have much to write to you, I would rather not use paper and ink. Instead I hope to come to you and talk face to face, so that our joy may be complete.

deeper hopes

- 1. "I hope I get into my dream college."
- 2. "I hope I find a job soon."
- 3. "I hope the CAT scan is negative."

ultimate hopes deeperhopes casual hopes

1 John 2:15-17

Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them. For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world. The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever.

When God calls us to love him as our "first love," it is not only because he deserves to hold that place in our hearts, but also because he knows what pain will come when we get that out of order. If you give the part of your soul that is meant for God to lesser things, they will break your heart because they cannot possibly come through for you in the ways

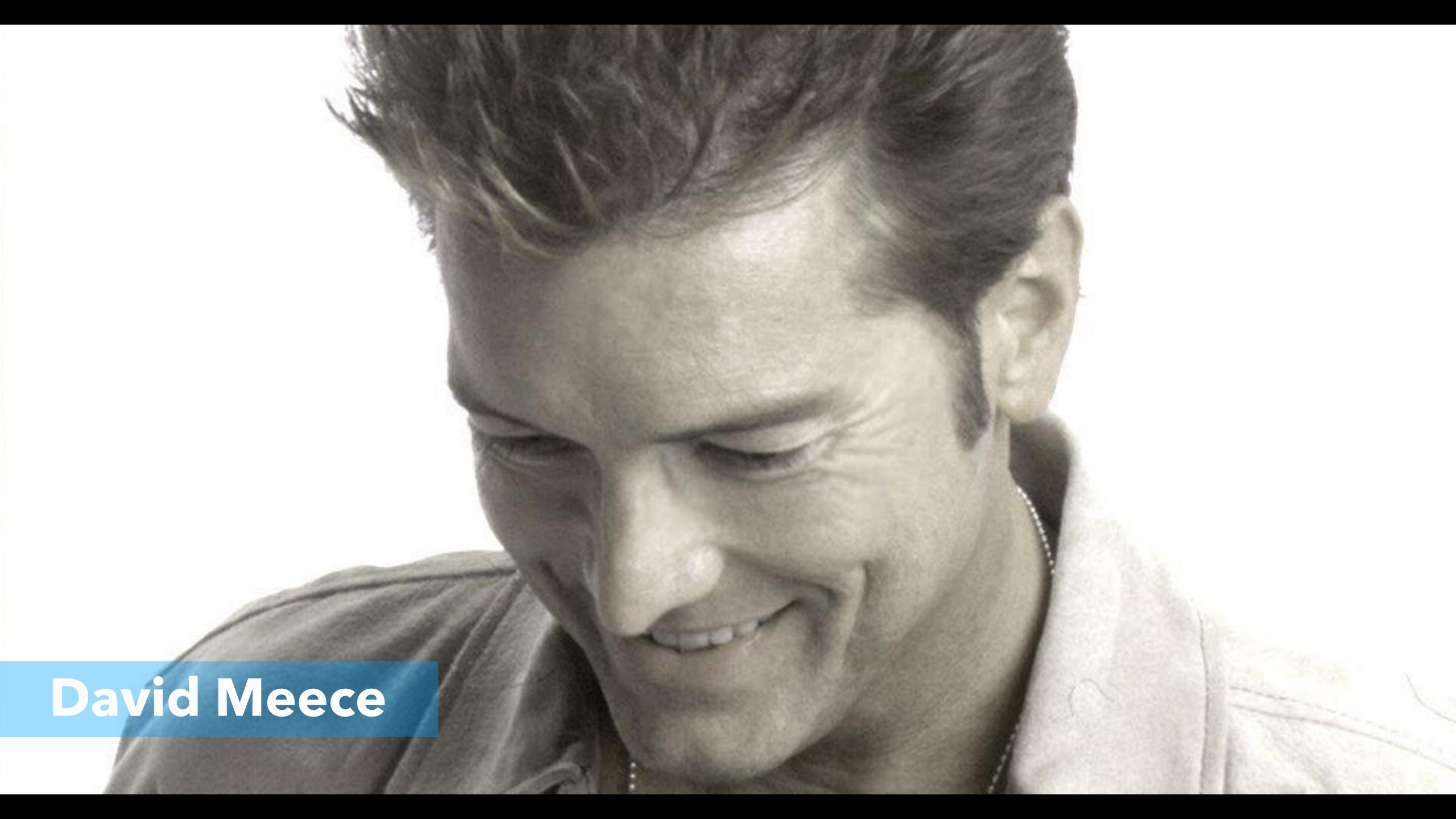
God can. Only he will never leave you or forsake you. The command is a rescue from disaster.

Many of you have begun to discover the joy and freedom loving God brings to the rest of your life. Keeping God as our first love, we are not destroyed when others fail to love us well; we are able to weather criticism, loneliness, and rejection.

... Here is my point: the renewal of all things is meant to be your first hope in the way that God is your First Love. If it isn't the answer to your wildest dreams, if you aren't ready at this very moment to sell everything and buy this field, then you have placed your hopes somewhere else. Nearly everyone has.

l Peter 1:3-5

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you, who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.



Matthew 19:28-29

Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, at the renewal of all things, when the Son of Man sits on his glorious throne, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or fields for my sake will receive a hundred times as much and will inherit eternal life.