

[Thunder and lightning sound. Video with music shows thunder and lightning in the clouds, TV announcing warning, listener watching]

[NICK] The storms of life are inevitable.

Trials and tribulations come when you don't expect them.

My friend, we're not promised a perfect journey.

The wind will blow.

The rain will fall, and the waters will rise.

How will YOU withstand the storm?

What is your life built on?

{NICK COMES ON STAGE} Good evening!

[CLAPPING AND CHEERING]

Who's excited to be here tonight? [CHEERING]

I want to thank Gateway Dallas! JB, thank you so much for your hosting tonight.

Thank you, David Blies and everyone here tonight to make this possible. On behalf of our ministry Life Without Limbs, we're so, so blessed to be here tonight, just not in this home of God right here, but every one of you watching online, which whichever platform you're watching from,

Good Evening or Good Morning! Welcome! and we hope that tonight you're to be blessed.

We're so, so blessed to have—really, first of all, my home church, now Gateway Church. Me and my family we go to the Frisco Campus, and we're just so, so blessed to be here in the DFW metroplex area, and I'm so excited for tonight because this is a first for us.

This is not a guest speaker at church, Nick. What's happening tonight is we humbly approached Gateway, and we're just so honored that they said, "Yes," to the first of about every three months—we don't know exactly where it's going to be—but our ministry....

Obviously, we used to travel all around the world, and I don't know if you heard about this thing called COVID or not, but basically it stopped a lot of the travel. Even though I use all the hand sanitizer I can use, they're not letting me travel because, you know, they still can't find my fingerprints, and so I'm just so blessed that we could do a lot online.

And every three months approximately we're going to be doing a youth outreach, digital live, and it's called the "Real Series." My team asked me, "What do you want to call it? What do you feel God telling you that we're going to name this quarterly series?"

And I said, "Real, because we need something—what? Real."

And then they asked me, "Well, what is the one topic, if you had to choose any topic, that you wanted to share with the next generation, what would it be? Real, and I chose and I felt this was unanimous on the team.

Real hope!

I don't know how many of you have heard me maybe preach before. Can I really quickly ask?

Put your hand up if you have heard me preach before. Okay, awesome, like face to face. Yeah, good. Did I grow any? Am I still short?

So put your hand up if you see me on the Internet. Real quick, okay, put your hand up if you've seen me face to face. Okay, okay, awesome, awesome!

Well, tonight I really want to share with you some scripture that has been a scripture that I grew up knowing quite well.

It went with a hymn, so my church that I grew up in, we actually sang a lot of hymns, and one of them was "My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness." And the chorus goes, "On Christ the solid rock I stand! All other ground is sinking sand. All other ground is sinking sand." I want to first read the scripture, if we can have that on the screen. Matthew 7:24-27.

"Anyone who listens to my teaching—this is Jesus—anyone who listens to my teaching and follows it, is wise, like a person who builds a house on solid rock, though the rain comes in torrents and the flood waters rise, and the winds beat against the house, it won't collapse because it is built on bedrock, but anyone who hears my teaching and doesn't obey it, is foolish like a person who builds a house on sand. When the rains and floods come and the winds beat against that house, it will collapse with a mighty crash."

Let's all pray. Father God, we come before You, and we thank You so much. We thank you for the word that comes straight from You. We thank you for the Bible. We thank you, Lord, that we can gather tonight, and we thank You, Lord, that You would open up our hearts and our minds. Help us, Lord, to hear Your real voice and the real hope that You have for each and every one of us. In the mighty name of Jesus we all pray. Amen.

So, real quick, I was born in Australia, and I was born this way and my question in life was, "Why?"

And it was really difficult to really believe that there was real hope for me. and I'm not going to share my story in much depth. but for those of you who do not know my story, I actually attempted suicide at age 10.

I'm now a professional motivational speaker in school systems. I'm actually a youth advisor to 3 national governments around the world. I've addressed 10 different governments. I've met 21 Presidents and Vice Presidents, and as I've traveled around the world, I've done 74 countries, 2500 planes, and our largest audience was 800,000 people in one gathering as we preach the gospel through the ministry of Life Without Limbs.

As we've gone around the world and we've talked to many people, I really wanted to know what was really going on in the youth of America, and so about 6 or 7 years ago, I really started doing something that some teachers were like, "Like, what just happened? Like wait! Really that was real!"

What I did was in front of thousands of students across 269 public and private schools of America, I would take an anonymous survey. and what I want to do as a speaker is tell you something real. With me what you see is what you get. I'm not going to give you any fluff. I'm not going to just make you feel, blah blah.

I want you to walk away here changed! I want you to walk away from here thinking.... I want you to walk away challenged in a good way because if you have found everything you ever needed and ever wanted and it was a guarantee that you will wake up tomorrow happy, then you would never be in need.

The problem with our state as a human being, arms and legs or not, we are in a state of need and a state of desire, no matter what's going on in the world, it's interesting when you're a kid, and you want a toy, and you get the toy, and then what do you want? You want another toy.

You girls you get the shoes, and what happens with the shoes? You get another pair of shoes and you know all this stuff, it's like, "Okay, well next, next, next, next, it's like it's interesting. It's like even some people, they're changing girlfriends and boyfriends like every three weeks, like you know, It's like next, next, next relationship.

No, it's not me, it's them! And we're in this like desperate need of desire, and this thing that is missing in our soul the way that we are made, is a spirit and a soul and a mind and a body, and so what I did is understanding then how my audience feels and why would they ever feel like giving up?

Is it just me that I attempted suicide at age 10 because of bullying was what I was thinking? I had a loving family. Half the people at my school didn't have a loving family. A quarter of the people their parents were already divorced, and the other quarter of the people wish that their parents divorced, and it's worse being in a broken home than having no arms or no legs, and you see it's the brokenness of our spirit and our heart and our soul that matters more than anything else, and we try to get stuff, and we try to look certain ways, and we try to even affirm our own security by sometimes even bullying other people or thinking that we're a little bit more important than other people or thinking that at school we have to maintain some kind of reputation because, you know, we can't lose face and then feeling at times that I need a boyfriend to feel loved, and then you realize how dangerous sex out of marriage is, and the only reason why you're sleeping with them is because it makes you feel like someone wants you, and that you're needed, which is a subconscious, and a conscious affirmation of your value and if you don't know the truth of your value, you and that you're needed, which is a subconscious, and a conscious affirmation of your value, and if you don't know the truth of your value, you might be disabled with the lies of the world about what then VALUABLE is, then what love is.

Sex ain't love. You can sleep with anyone you want as many times you want and still wonder, "Do they love you?" And so I knew when someone would come up to me and they start teasing me, and I'm like, "Why are you teasing me for? I'm actually quite a cool guy! I mean I'm short for my age, but big deal!" Man, I could like head butt this guy in the face! It's like look at his freckles, look at his hair, look at his shoes--I'm like seriously, man, you're like picking on me like...? But why would I pick on him? Is that going to change anything? NO!

Maybe he has a world that is out of control in his home where he's never felt love, where he hasn't got a truth of a value, and that all he has seen is his world out of his control, and so maybe it's his way of coping through his life to then control me, which doesn't justify evil, does it?

So I wondered how many other teenagers in America that are in middle schools and high schools would actually say to me and answer, "But how would we do it? How would I get the answers right there and then and get honest answers? I'd only get honest answers as people trust me, #1, and #2, that no one else knows their answer.-

So. the way that I did it is in front of thousands of students. We did it 269 times. The heads would be bowed, the eyes would be closed, the hands go up. Their hand is open, and I asked them simply with no

one looking around, "Put your hand in a fist if you've actually thought of committing suicide." Six to twelve percent of all teenagers, pre-2020, from a stat of 269 schools, all around America—6-12% of all teenagers in America has at least thought of committing suicide. Then I said, "Put your hand in the fist if you've actually attempted." Three to six percent tried, but they were still here. Then I said, "Put your hand in a fist if you actually feel like you have no hope in your life because of a brokenness in your home." 40%. And then I said, "Put your hand up if you feel like there is no hope in your life and you actually try to commit suicide because of bullying in your school." Forty percent of teenage-attempted suicide is because of bullying at school. That's what we're able to actually bring from the conclusion of that, and that's when I leaned over and I said, "I love you."

You're not a mistake! You're here for a reason, and you don't have to walk through this walk alone, and I want you to know that at schools I can't say Jesus because they'd handcuff me. (Did you get that?) But I want you to know that there is nothing like knowing Jesus, and I want you to know today that I've gone through a lot, and it's not just the fact that I had no arms and no legs, it was the fear of rejection.

It was the fear of being alone. It was the anxiety as a kid. How am I going to hold my wife's hand? Even if I had a wife, I can't even hold her hand. How am I going to hold my kids? Is it that I can just hope that I hope, that I hope one day that I get married? Is that real hope?

Well, I hope that I'm a good enough person, then I hope that I can be then in some other nicer place than earth, that I hope exists, and that I hope I get in. Does that sound pretty hopeful to you? That ain't real. It's like, "Well I hope...It's like going to a cash register. What's real hope? Who goes to a grocery store, picks an item, you see the price tag \$3.99, baby, \$3.99. You go to the cash register. What do you get? You get how much? "\$3.99. You don't get \$2.99, and say, "I hope that's enough." They'll look at you like, "Huh?" and what are they going to say? "It's not enough!" If you get \$3.99 and you pass over \$3.99. and you say, "Here's \$3.99. It costs \$3.99. I hope that's enough." They'll be looking at you like, "What is wrong with you? It cost \$3.99. You gave me \$3.99. it is done, when you are purchased...purchased by the blood of Jesus Christ.

What does that mean? You see, when we are born, we're born with need I have no arms and no legs but we all have other disabilities, like fear, failure, shame, guilt. Here's the biggest disabilities of all: sin and death, and we try to fill up our life with stuff, with things, even an ideology.

"Oh, when I get married then everything's going to be okay!" No. Go go talk to the married people. It's like, "What is it that would make everything okay?"

Now don't get upset with me from my little doctrinal little illustration here, but if I went to a store to buy eternal hope, what does that even look like? What is eternity? Well, that's when you hear about Jesus, and I'm thinking, "Man, I don't like this Jesus man. I don't understand. What about my friends who don't believe in Jesus? How...how can I stomach the fact that there are some people that I love who are actually a little bit even more better behaved than my Christian friends at church to say that they can't go to heaven because they don't believe in Jesus?"

And then I know some Christian friends who already, anyway sleeping around, and they come to church and they worship the Lord, but it's okay to, you know, and it's okay to, you know, try this and try that?"

You see we're faced with so many choices: money, drugs, sex, alcohol, pornography, fame and fortune. COVID is not the #1 killer of America. Abortion is, and half of them are from Christians. Whoa!

So, what we're going to understand are the choices are real, that money, drugs, sex, alcohol, pornography, fame and fortune—if you put your happiness in temporary things, your happiness will be temporary. That's why money can't satisfy you. That's why not enough likes and followers on Facebook and Instagram and Snapchat, and what's the other one? whatever TickTock, but I couldn't care less.

I just want you to know that you don't need the world to tell you what's really going to make you happy. When you really know the Person who designed you for happiness, who better to tell your purpose than the One who created you for purpose?

Sex out of marriage is never better than in marriage because that's how it was designed. Yes? So wait for God's best, and He will do the rest. What's hard is waiting for Him. I hated Him! Oh, I hated God. I swore at Him. I didn't talk to Him. I said, "God, You owe me an explanation! You say that You have a hope, plan and future. Where is it?"

You have asked that. "Don't worry. Everything's going to be okay." Uh-uh, it ain't ok today, so where is He? Well, just ask God to give you whatever your heart desires, and what if He says, "No."

Oh, God can't say no to my prayer. Really? You? Can't? Yeah, He can't say no to you? Well, I think He can. If He says no to my desire, is it that He's mean, so what did I want? Well, today I can tell you I wanted arms and legs, duh..... I would love to have arms and legs, and jump around. I love to...so I mean I've done a lot of things with my little foot like I can swim, and type 53 words a minute on a normal computer, and I can give people like a peace sign. Piece! And I love having no arms or legs. I'm so good at playing hide and seek with my kids because I fit in clothing drawers.

I'm already the shortest in my family. We've got four kids. I love my four kids. Man, when they cry. I could put my arms around them, but they can put their arms around me. I've got a beautiful wife. We nearly been married now for nine years I can't hold her hand, but I can hold her heart—don't need arms and legs for that, and I ain't here on earth just to exist, and just to enjoy, and just to co-exist.

I am here to let people know that no matter what the world can give you, all other ground is sinking sand because it just ain't enough. Your intellect ain't enough. Your intellect will fail you. The intellect of the smartest people on earth just check them out on the tv. Your wisdom, your self-discipline. You change. Who were you nine months ago? Did you change? You change. Did people fail you? Did you fail people? Yeah. Why? Because we're h-u-m-a-n, human, and that is the disability, that the peace that the world can give you, ain't real. The joy that the world can give you, ain't real, and I'm thinking, "Okay then, where's my joy? Where's my hope? God you allowed this to happen. I asked you for arms and legs." (Do you know I still have a pair of shoes in my closet just in case He says yes?)

Why? because how many things are possible with God! I'm not joking. I've seen blind people seeing, deaf people hearing, lame people walking, crooked backs come straight. I've had an incurable disease cured in my own back. Three MRIs proved that in 2002, an incurable medical disease with the doctor's report saying we've never seen it before. It's medically impossible that your degenerative disease in your spine called the syrinx actually closed back up. I'm absolutely wrong against the medical textbook, and I said why, because how many things are possible with God.

Excuse me, how many things are possible with God!

[AUDIENCE RESPONDS, "ALL."]

[NICK] Can I hear an Amen?

AUDIENCE RESPONDS, "AMEN."]

So, what we must understand is that when I ask for arms and legs, would it be cool to have arms and legs? Yes, it would be cool. Would it maybe give me arthritis later on when I'm old? Perhaps. but I'll tell you, man, the joy, if everyone ended up in heaven, then we would not need a temporary life to choose.

If everyone went to heaven, then we might as well be there now, or just be robots, or God is a very cruel God, which He is not, because He's very logical if you know your Bible, and the reason why I'm not another religion, is not because my parents were Christian.

Don't you dare be a Christian just because someone else is a Christian! Go and search the truth for yourself. If you think that Jesus is just a remedy, if you think your weekly church gathering is just a filling up of your gas tanks spiritually, if you think of Jesus as whatever else some kind of antidote or an app that you can text Him on a bad day—if Jesus ain't your cure, if Jesus ain't your rock, if Jesus ain't the Lord of your life, you'll understand when your life is built on nothing less but Jesus blood and righteousness.

I pray for more than two minutes a day. I don't wait to go to church to read my Bible. I pray for people. I text people, "What can I pray for you all?" I actually read the Bible when my sister or my cousin or my friend is going through distress. I don't just pray for people, guys. I fast for people and not the American fluffy fast. I fast with no food because the Bible says that when there's bad stuff going on, it ain't just people. it's against powers and spirituality powers of darkness, that some of these things, and some of your addictions, and some of the afflictions and oppressions of your mom, and some of the addictions of your dad, and the afflictions of his dad was actually quite spiritual, and we get the power to pray in the name of Jesus as we stand on the rock. When we pray in the name of Jesus angels come from heaven.

I ain't praying for a disease to just go through the earth and then everything's going to be better. I ain't praying that the churches would hurry up and fill back up and we go back to normal. ain't praying for that. I'm praying that you and I know Him, because, guess what, guys, 2020 sucks.

I don't know if you heard the news, but it's pretty sucky, but do you really believe that this is the last crisis that we're going to face...as humankind? So, take a deep breath in, and out. Do you believe that any of this is a surprise to the Lord? Do you believe that Jesus is coming back? When is He coming, man? He's coming back. That's all I know. He's coming back. I'm 38 years old—just had my birthday. Today is my dad's—would have been his 66th birthday. He died at 63 years old of cancer. We buried him in peace. Why? Because his life was built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness. Did we pray that cancer would go? Yes. Do Christians die of cancer? Yes. Car crash? Yes. I've had three death threats myself. I've had a grenade at my home. We had a car bomb in Ukraine. We had a threat of the bomb in a stadium in Bolivia. I have had death threats.

I've been on planes, 2 500 planes around the world, get that! Three million miles, I've been up in the air. I've been around the world 120 times. I can see the runway out the side of the window. Our plane also got struck by lightning! No joke!

I've seen some crazy stuff man, but my dad knew that He ain't going home one day early, one day later than His perfect plan. Do I like the fact that God's plan was that my dad died of cancer? No, I hate it. I hate it. I hated seeing him suffer, but if he didn't die of cancer, he'd die somewhere, something else because this world is not my home. I'm just passing through. I'm a citizen of heaven, baby, passing through.

I'm not just a kid with no arms no legs. I'm an ambassador of the King of kings and Lord of lords. I don't need arms and legs. I don't need the world to tell me how valuable I am, and in all humility and respect, I love everyone. There is not anyone more important than you or less than important than you. From Jesus', from God's perspective, when you're 37,000 feet in the air and you're looking down the earth, it looks pretty flat.

I don't care what city you're in. It looks pretty flat compared to God. It'll be higher than 37,000. Righteousness. Who are we? So, I had a conversation with God to finish this part. I had a conversation with the Lord.

I said, "God I want to believe in heaven. I want to believe, Jesus, that you died on the cross for me," because it made sense to me in the context that Jesus was the only One who said, "I am God." Jesus was the only one who actually rose other people from the grave before He rose Himself from the grave. Jesus was the only One who didn't say, "Come, follow Me. I will show you the way." He said, 'I AM the Way.' Do this this and this and this, and then I'll see you on the other side. No. 'Believe in Me that I will die for the sins of the world, and if you believe that I paid for that eternal life with My blood, you receive eternal life.'

I can't go to heaven on my own merit because heaven is perfect, and I'm not perfect, and I wanted to believe that Jesus died for me. I wanted to believe that I could, in that illustration of doctrine, that I could go to a grocery store, take out eternity, and go to the checkout, and then they say, "Well, death...." Death is going to get you in, but I'm only one person, so if I die, then I'm dead. That doesn't make sense, but Jesus says, "I'll pay for that. I'll die for that. I'll die for Nick. I got that, Nick, if you believe in Me, if you believe I paid for it, then just come follow Me."

I wanted to believe that so I said, "God, why? Why did you make me this way? Maybe you're thinking, God, why did you allow me to be sexually abused? Why did you allow me to be a person I never met my dad?"

At 24 years old I met a little boy in a crowd and I saw a man hold up a little boy with no arms no legs and I was preaching the gospel and I looked at him, and I'm like, "Wow! Cute little one, just like me, a little foot just like me!"

And I'm like, "Man he's so cute, so I got him up on stage, and he's looking up at me, I'm looking down at him, and I can't give him a high five, so I gave him a low two, and when he smiled, everyone cried, and that's when I realized when God doesn't give you a miracle you can still be one."

Do you know that day was so amazing? When my parents hugged his parents that week after we met, and they cried, and they prayed. The doctors told his parents that he wouldn't be able to go to school, and I said, "No, no, no. He will go to school I'll talk to you doctor if that's what he takes. I'll twist his arm, I'll headbutt him." Did Daniel go to school? Yeah, then I heard that he was getting bullied, so I told his mom, "I'll come to school. I'll run them all over."

I went to his school. I didn't run over anyone deliberately, and I spoke about love, and no one teased Daniel, and no one teased anybody for the rest of that year because they realized, "Wow! We're all special just the way that we are!"

What if you're going through what you're going through not just to survive, but to actually find the REAL HOPE you're really looking for which is in JESUS. But now 10 years from now, you look back, and God puts someone else in your life who's actually going through what you're going through in some way

shape or form, who feels like they need real hope, and you can tell them, “Yeah, I tried to fill that gap with this or that, but I knew it never satisfied me.”

What we’ve got to understand is the importance of truth, the truth of REAL HOPE, and I don't know about you, but it would be cool to have arms and legs for 90 years, but you know what's even cooler? Living forever! You know what’s even cooler than living forever?

It's having arms and legs forever. Do you know what's cooler than living forever with arms and legs forever? Seeing Daniel with his arms and legs. Living there forever, too, and his wife and his kids and his kids, and his kids, kids, kids, kids because....

Everyone say, "because"--because of God's plan.

I want to ask you if we can watch a video soon. It's going to come up here. I want you to listen. I want you to watch it, want to ask you, “What are you hoping for or do you have REAL HOPE?

Let's watch right now.

[VIDEO WITH MUSIC: GUY WALKING ON THE BEACH.]

What if I were to tell you that two construction companies with the same materials, same set of circumstances, and the same blueprint could have two completely different outcome—that despite the similar beginnings of the houses they built, they would experience opposite endings?

You see, after these houses were built, a massive storm set in—relentless wind, torrential rainfall, and a rising stream. One house could not withstand the elements and fell with a crash. The other stood unaffected and intact. What caused one to fall and the other to flourish? It was not the storm, the materials, or the blueprint. So, was it? It was the foundation. The house that withstood the storm was built on bedrock; the one that fell was built on sand.

There is no doubt that the foundation of a home determines its destiny. My friend, what is the foundation of your life? Is it strong enough to weather any storm? When the world is loud, chaotic, they're telling you all is lost, what will you stand on? Social media, the news, mindless entertainment, self-improvement?

These are fickle foundations. In these uncertain times, you must ask yourself, what is my life built on? The rock or the sand? There is a quote that someone said, “Don't tell God how big your problems are. Tell your problems how big your God is!”

And I just want you to be reminded that there is Jesus, who asks you, “Will you trust Me? Will you trust me that I am capable of changing anything, but I’m more interested in changing your heart and your life. I’m not going to promise you that storms are not going to come. but if you trust in Me, you will never sink. Are some Christians depressed? Are some Christians anxious? Are some Christians scared sometimes, yeah. Guess who?

Why? because we're human.

We all feel, but what I want you to know is that Jesus is with you. Jesus can heal you, and I’d rather have a life without limbs than a life without Jesus. I’d rather have a life without a wife than a life without Jesus. I’d rather have a life without children than a life without Jesus. Yes, because there is no one like Jesus, and He loves you, and I want to ask you, “Are your feet on the rock or on the sand?

Today, make your choice. Are you quite done yet trying to figure this all out, trying to struggle from year to year? And just when you think things were getting good.....[FLUSHING SOUND]

How long will we depend on our own strength? Just surrender.

"God, I can't even break my own yoke of pornographic addiction. God I can't stop looking at myself and thinking ugly. God, I can't on my own feel better than I am. Please, help me as I pray, as I read the Word, as I talk to fellow Christians, as I go to Bible study, as I search for You. Help me to see You more than anything else. He wants you to see Him more than anything else.

Tonight might be my last night. Does anyone know?

Love the last verse, "When He shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in Him be found. I'll be dressed in His righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne."

On Judgment Day there will be my accuser, the devil, and there will be Jesus next to me, and the devil will say to God the Father, "God," (Yes, the devil knows God is real.) "God, this is Nicholas James Vujcic, born 4th of December, 1982, at 5 am, Melbourne, Australia. I'm going to now read the account of all of his sin while he lived all of his life. He's done this this this this is this this this is this this this this is 16 years later this this this is this this is and he keeps on going 66 years later" and then he stops.

God then turns to us and Jesus says, "Father, at 15 years old, Nick read John, Chapter 9 in the Bible, where I healed the blind man." This is true! I actually gave my life to Jesus at 15.

People asked Jesus, "Why was that my man born blind? Same question as me. Jesus said it was done so that I could show my work. He heals the blind man. I'm like, ... [NICK SQUEALS.]

I said, "God give me arms and legs, but if you don't give me arms and legs, rescue me from the greatest disabilities of all, sin and death. Give me arms and legs, and I'll praise You. Don't give me arms legs. I'll still praise You, and limbless I'll stand in front of the gates of hell and redirect traffic.

If I could just help one other person see You died for me, I live for you, and Jesus says, "Before the throne at age 15, he believed that I died for his sins." Yes, he did sin, but I died for them all," and daily we were in a relationship where I would talk to God.

Guys, I talk to Jesus, and I say, "God, help me today," and when I fail, I said, "God, forgive me today, and help me to be what You want me to be, and every day I grew more mature and more strong. I've been reading the Bible daily for 25 years. Give yourself time, but you have to nurture your soul. Feed your soul. Don't wait for others to feed you food. Look for the truth yourself, and you become mature and then a general, in the army of God, knowing that His angels surround you that no weapon formed against you shall prosper, and that even if this is my last day, I will be found faultless before the throne. Why? Because in Christ the solid rock I stand. All other ground is sinking sand. Tonight, I want to ask you, "Where are you standing?"

He doesn't want you to wait till you stop saying the f-word before you become a Christian. He wants you to come now because a broken house to be fixed, you have to allow the carpenter to come into your house to fix the house. The carpenter can't fix the house until you let Him in, and today He stands at the door and you hear.

If you hear Him knocking tonight, I'm going to give an opportunity to respond right now, and in a moment, I'm going to call you forward. Sure, some social distancing whatever. the front. but I'm going to call you at the front.

Well, why am I going to call you up the front? Because if you can't make a stand for your faith in a church building here and now, how do you expect to stand up for your faith outside of this building? That's why I ask you to stand, because not only are we your witnesses, but all the angels, yes, Jesus knows your heart, but today you don't know if you're going to heaven tonight.

I do! I'm rich. Man, I'm rich! I don't need a thing! My Daddy owns everything! He gives me always what I need, not always what I want, but He will give me everything I need.

The world can't but He can, so in a moment I'm going to ask you to stand where you are and then come forward, and you're going to stand wherever you see yourself standing.

Doesn't matter. Go ahead and play those keys, please. That'll be great. I forgot about that I play keys, but I'm not warmed up yet, but right now I want to call you forward, and you at home, you can do this in your heart as well. I want to lead you in a prayer that begins your faith journey with Jesus Christ, so that you know that you don't have to hope that you hope that this is hoping that it's true when there's not a lot of hope. Come and taste and see that the Lord is good. Let him into your heart. Pray. Seek Him, and you will find Him.

He promises that, so right now with no other hesitation, no other waiting. Right now, if you know that you know that tonight you want to make a stand on the rock, if you already have a relationship with Jesus Christ, fine, but I'm talking to those of you who don't know Jesus. There is so much more to this life than meets the eye, and it's Him, and He loves you just the way that you are. Let Him come in and work in you and through you, one day at a time.

So right now, don't wait for the first person. Be the first person, but sincerely in your heart, do not worry about what other people are doing or who else is coming. This is between you and the Lord.

Tonight, will you make your life right with Jesus and turn away from sin, knowing that you'll never be perfect, but you're going to say, "God from this day on, I give up on depending on my own strength, my own wisdom, my own blah blah blah. I ask you to take my life just as I am, and He says, "Come!"

So right now, I'm going to wait for the first person, and when you see someone standing and coming forward, clap them on down. We're going to wait. Don't wait for the first person. Be the first person. Trust me. I think there's at least 10, 11, 12, 13 of you, so I will wait.

I'm a very patient man when it comes to this. I'm waiting. I'm waiting for you God's waiting for you just come there's nothing to be afraid of not going to lay hands on you or anything let's cover it. Just face me just face me maybe you don't want to come alone you want to come with a friend right now turn to your friend and say hey I want to get up please come up with me. They're waiting for you to ask him that's only four I'm waiting for 10 more people let's go with friends. Waiting. We're waiting. Jesus is waiting.

There's another one! 1, 2, 3, 4, 5—waiting, waiting. Stand, just come. Just come. Jesus says come to me all who are weary and heavy laden and I will give you rest are you looking for rest. Are you looking for rest? 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16.

I'm waiting for 5 more people. No joke. Why are you waiting? There, there we go. That's another 1. That's another 1. That's another 1. That's another 1. That's another 1. That's another 3. That's another 2. There's another 1, 2. I'm waiting for you, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9.

Church, can you give a bit of a shot of the praise? There's 39 people, exactly 40 coming down! 41, 42. Okay, ready? This is the last and final call if you're thinking of thinking of coming, stop thinking about it,

and move! That's 43. Anybody else? Come on down! That's 43, 44, 45. This is the last call, 46, 47, 48, 49. They're still coming! Guys, come on 50. Come on! Enough's enough. Move. We're good.

Let's all stand to our feet. Let's bow our heads before the Lord. Let me just pray first, and then I'll ask you to repeat a prayer after me, but not yet. Let me pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you for tonight. We humbly, once again, acknowledge that we are nothing, and You are everything. You are the King of kings, the Lord of lords, the beginning and the end, the Creator of everything. We see and everything we don't see. Who are we that You would even think of us, but yet Lord, we're Your children, and only You know how beautifully orchestrated You have made tonight happen.

The Lord not only would there, be people watching online, and not only would there be people in their seats, but people would be at the front of this auditorium tonight to say, "Yes, Lord, I choose you because you died for me. We thank you, Lord, that you are God. There is only one true living God, We thank you. You love us. You don't make sense a lot. You're not in our time, but You are in full control, and we thank you for that. We thank you that. Your love remains, and your love never changes, no matter what we do, no matter what we don't do.

We know that Your love pursues us, and, Lord, we thank You that your love has pursued us to this point where people have asked You to come into our life, in our home, and in our soul to fix up our brokenness, to take away our burdens, to manage with the depression and anxiety and addictions, and give it to You, Father.

We thank you that all of our problems are much bigger than us but nothing is bigger than you and father we pray right now for all of our families we pray lord right now for any thoughts of of suicide or thinking of giving up begone in the name of Jesus we pray for every household to be saved we pray God for every diction to be broken we pray God for every person who feels lonely before tonight lord God would feel your presence and as we hunger for your word as we hunger to know you father we thank you that you would give us the strength to know you help us to know how to pray help us to know how to walk with you to talk with you and when just to be with you father you're bigger than a church you're much bigger than a religion Jesus you are God and you are not only the king of kings lord of lords but lord Jesus you're our friend, true friend who says come as you are we thank you we thank you that everything we need is right here it's you. Bless these people up in the front. Bless them in the mighty name of Jesus.

If you're up the front, please repeat this prayer after me. Say, "Dear God, I come to you today, and I thank you for loving me. God I am a sinner. I'm sorry for all of my sins. Please forgive me. Help me to forgive myself. Lord Jesus, I believe You are the Son of God. You died for me. You rose again, and Your blood was shed for my sin. Thank you, Jesus, for the cross. Holy Spirit, fill me right now with your presence and a hunger to know You. I want to know Your peace, Your strength, and Your joy. Thank you, God, that You will hold me through any storm. Teach me how to pray. Show me how to live one day at a time. In Jesus name I pray. Amen."

Let's give God a shout praise.

I want you all to know that I love you, and God loves you, and those first of you, who are watching online, I want you if you're in the United States of America, I want you to get out your cell phone because I want to give you some videos to help you to connect with the Lord over the next seven days. You're going to get some videos from me that you can't find on the Internet. I want you to get your

phone out if you're in the US right now. The number to text is 66866. The number again is 66866 and the word is Jesus to text, and you're going to get some videos.

My friend out there, if you want to grow in your walk with Jesus, and you watched it online, thank you for watching tonight, and I hope that you're encouraged with those videos.

Everyone up in front, we have king up here who's going to be letting you know that we love you and it's not just now. Okay, here's the Bible. Good luck. We want to tell you we love you. Look at my eyes. We love you, every single one of you. We love you, and we're so excited that you made this decision. You might wake up tomorrow morning is okay.

"What do I do now?" I want to help you with the next steps, and we want to give you also a letter from me to help you with the next steps, and there's going to be a table of those resources, and we're going to point you in the right direction to go pick that up very quickly, but go for it!

Yeah! So just adding on to what he said, we love you guys, and we're proud of you, because this is a first step into the right direction. It's a first step, and that step is going to turn into a walk, and that walk is not something that's easy to do on your own. You're going to have God's help, but another thing you really need is a good community, and if you are a leader here at Gateway, all campuses—Can you just raise your hand real quick if you are a leader?

Everywhere these people, raising your hands, they love you, and they want to help you walk this walk with you,, so when you leave the auditorium there's going to be a Next Step booth and I want you to go to the Next Step booth, and you're going to be given a Bible, and you're going to be able to connect with these people that love you, and want what's best you, and walk through this with you, so as soon as you leave the auditorium, make sure you go to the Next Step booth because they're there for you. I just want to say one more time, I'm proud of you. I'm proud of you. I'm proud of you. I'm proud of you. Awesome! So right now, guys, at the front, put your hand up.

If you have your belongings on you, put your hand up. If you have all your belongings on you at the front, hello, put your hand, okay, put your hand up, before. Your belongings are at the seat that you came from. Okay, now I'm going to watch this, okay? One second, cause I'm going to take over.

Everyone, if you're at the seat, sit down. Look at me at the front. Look at me. Look at me. I really want you to get this stuff, and I really, really love you, so I'm going to watch you if I see you sit down. you don't go to the Next Step table right now. I'm going to drag you back up. You understand me? I want you to put one foot in front of the other, right? Seriously, why? Because I really believe you need this.

Okay, so when we give you a round of applause, because we're going to welcome you into the family of God, right now, when we give the round of applause, we're going to see you turn around, military style, so you're going to go straight to your seat. You're going to grab your stuff. You're going to get back up. You sit down, like don't tempt me! I'll drag you back up! You grab your stuff, and you're going to go through those doors, correct, leaders? I want you right there, right now, to escort some people out. No one else is going to move except these people. So here we go. Ready, church? Can we welcome everyone here into the family of God? We love you! Okay, guys, turn around, grab your stuff. I'm watching you. Go grab your stuff. Go out those doors. Go pick up that stuff. Everyone else watching at home. God bless you.

Transcript of Real Hope
<https://youtu.be/r7ydvxJHR5g>

If you need prayer, please email us at support@lifewithoutlimbs.org. If you live in the Dallas/Fort Worth metroplex, check out your local campus of Gateway Church, all the Gateways. Thank you to everyone here for having us. Did everyone enjoy tonight? May God bless you, and thank you for having me.

[YOUTH LEADER} Please go ahead. Last thing before everybody else leaves. As you guys were walking in, you guys select few of you guys randomly selected, were given a QR code and a flyer. Okay so if you got that, scan it, and you're going to get a chance to register, and once you've registered if you have a flyer, I want you to exit the auditorium, and take a right. There will be a leader waiting for you guys because the ones that have gotten a flyer will get a chance to have a Q&A with Pastor Nick. Sounds good? Perfect. Well, anything you want to say before I dismiss everybody?

[NICK] Love you! Love you guys!

[YOUTH LEADER} Have a Merry Christmas! Thank you all for coming, and you guys are dismissed.