

September 14, 2018



Ministry Jottings: Hope In Others

"Let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works." --
Hebrews 10:24

In the early minutes of Disney's *Beauty and the Beast*, we see Belle and her father together. He is working on a mechanical invention for the fair and it ready to give up. He says "I'll never get this boneheaded contraption to work." Belle replies, "Yes, you will, and you'll win first place". Belle never gives up hope in those she loves. It's a theme on which her whole story turns.

Fast forward to the end of the movie. The townspeople are ready to kill the Beast. Belle assures them "I know he looks vicious, but he's really kind and gentle. He's my friend." The townspeople push on and the Beast is stabbed. "No", cries Belle, "Please don't leave me. I love you!" And those are the literal magic words to break the spell turning the Beast into a handsome prince - all because Belle wouldn't give up her hard-won hope in the Beast.

Like Belle, you have the power to turn darkness to light. In fact, it only takes the same words Belle used: "I love you." Loving someone breeds hope not only in your heart but in the others person's heart as well. And having love and consideration for others is something we are called to do as followers of Christ. As you go about your day, consider in whom you might stir up hope and love with a few magic words of your own.

In Christ's grace,
Pastor Deb