## YouMatter

## 10 Tips to Embracing Daily Hope

by Dean Sikes

I try to live life every single day of my life with this truth front and center in both my heart and mind – my choices create my circumstances. And here's the cool thing about this truth – I get to choose how I either react or respond to every single circumstance I encounter on this journey we know as life. I can share with you from very personal experiences, responding beats reacting.

And with that said, I choose to respond to life from the perspective of HOPE, daily hope to be more specific. Here's ten tips you might choose to to consider embracing should you find yourself wanting to live life from a place of hope:

HOPE IS A CHOICE, SO NO MATTER WHAT YOU MAY FACE, CHOOSE HOPE.

HOPE IS A FORCE THAT GIVES FAITH SOMETHING TO HANG ONTO, SO CHOOSE TO HANG ON.

HOPE IS CONTAGIOUS, SO CHOOSE TO BE A CARRIER OF HOPE.

HOPE IS TO THE HEART WHAT AIR IS TO A TIRE, SO CHOOSE TO FILL UP ON HOPE.

HOPE IS THE POWER TO SEE THE BEST IN OTHERS, SO CHOOSE TO OPEN YOUR EYES.

HOPE IS A MEDICINE FOR THE BROKEN HEART, SO CHOOSE TO TAKE YOUR MEDS...EVERYDAY.

HOPE IS AN INVESTMENT IN YOURSELF AND IN OTHERS, SO CHOOSE TO INVEST WISELY.

HOPE IS A GIFT THAT KNOWS NO BOUNDARIES, SO CHOOSE TO BE A UNIVERSAL HOPE DEALER. HOPE IS TIMELESS, SO CHOOSE TO INVEST THE TIME YOU HAVE LIVING LIFE FROM A PLACE OF HOPE.

HOPE IS A GIFT GIVEN TO US BY GOD, SO CHOOSE TO RECEIVE YOUR GIFT AND THEN GIVE IT TO OTHERS.

## About Dean Sikes

Since January of 1993, Dean Sikes has been on the road, ministering words of hope in high schools across America and in nations of the world. To date, he's spoken at over 3,500 schools, sharing the message of hope with millions of teenagers. The connection he has with teens and young people continues to ignite a conversation encompassing this truth: You Matter.

Dean Sikes was born in Chattanooga, Tennessee and is the oldest of two children. Raised in a Christian family, he came to know Jesus at the young age of 7 years old. Not long after his 15th birthday, however, he was sexually abused. And throughout the remainder of his teenage years, Dean lived a very fake, painful, and oftentimes, unauthentic life. By the time he turned 21, his life was spiraling out of control. Lie after lie and bad choice after bad choice catapulted Dean into a defining moment where he had a very personal encounter with the Holy Spirit.

This defining moment was used by the Lord to help navigate him into fulltime ministry where he served Grammy-award winning Christian Artist Phil Driscoll. During his time with Phil's ministry, he coordinated and road-managed over 600 ministry events around the globe. In December of 1992, at the direction of the Lord, Dean resigned from Phil's ministry and the next month, launched his ministry where today, he continues to travel across America and into nations of the world, freely ministering words of hope to teenagers in high schools and Teen Challenge Centers.





## You Matter

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