

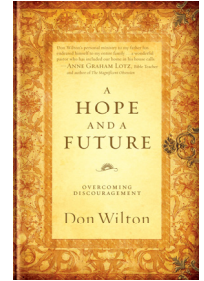
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Overcoming Discouragement with Biblical Truth

Dr. Billy Graham's Pastor and Friend and Shares Principles and Personal Story That Provides a Hope and a Future

(Spartanburg, SC) **Pastor Don Wilton**, who is also known as Billy Graham's pastor, recognizes that many people are discouraged as they struggle with uncertainty concerning their finances, health issues, a tough economy, broken family relations and other issues in the world. Wilton believes that discouragement is prevalent today and can have a negative impact a person's family, work, ministry and relationships, and may also lead to health ailments and depression.



To encourage those who are feeling overwhelmed and uncertain about their future, Wilton has released ***A Hope and a Future*** (B & H Books) to help people break the day-to-day discouragement cycle. "I want to provide principles and illustrations from God's Word for people to live beyond their circumstances, and despite their situation, God can bring them through it," Wilton says.

Using personal illustrations in his book, Wilton shares his personal journey through loneliness and discouragement in ***A Hope and a Future***.

Born in South Africa, Wilton recalls a time in a Zululand boarding school when, as a young boy, he experienced significant feelings rejection and loneliness. After graduation, Wilton was drafted into the military, and served as a tank commander in the Southwest African desert. After his military discharge, Wilton felt God calling him into ministry to share God's Word around the world.

"Don Wilton's personal ministry to my father has endeared himself to my entire family....a wonderful pastor who has included our home in his house calls," Anne Graham Lotz, Bible teacher and author.

In ***A Hope and a Future***, Pastor Wilton parallels the lives of biblical figures Nehemiah, Samuel and Moses, men who overcame discouragement by making a choice to take action. He also stresses the importance of understanding spiritual gifts, sharing your faith, giving to others and knowing the spiritual enemy. ***A Hope and a Future*** will help readers in the following areas:

- Identify and overcome spiritual emptiness and spiritual burnout
- Recognize the relationship between health and fulfilling their spiritual calling
- Understand why God allows spiritual attacks on Christians
- Combat spiritual attacks with armor of God
- Ten tactics Satan uses to discourage and seven defensive actions

Through his extensive travels, Pastor Wilton has spoken to thousands of people who have faced the same feelings of pain, anger, and loneliness that he once had. Wilton believes many of these feelings come from a person's longing to be loved. It wasn't until he turned his life over to Christ that Wilton's loneliness disappeared. "God's love finds its root in His very existence. His love is who He is by nature. His essence and character is love," says Wilton.

A Hope and a Future provides biblical applications and real-life examples for overcoming discouragement; reminding readers that God has a spiritual purpose for their future. "Sometimes the Lord allows us to go through circumstances to get our attention and allow us to place our full faith and trust in Him," says Wilton. "We need to remember that God has a plan for our lives that is greater than our circumstances."

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About the Author: Don Wilton is the senior pastor of the First Baptist Church in Spartanburg, South Carolina. He preaches to thousands across the country each week through *The Encouraging Word* television broadcast. Pastor Wilton continues to preach internationally and serves regularly as a faculty member at the Billy Graham Schools of Evangelism and the Billy Graham Training Center at the Cove. Wilton and his wife have three adult children.

A Hope and a Future by Don Wilton, B & H Books, ISBN-13: 978-0-8054-4555-8, \$16.99, Trade paperback, 256 pages, October 1, 2009.

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Suggested Interview Questions for Don Wilton, author of *A Hope and a Future*.

1. How did you determine that discouragement was a common struggle with so many people?
2. What are some symptoms of personal discouragement?
3. Tell us about your struggle with loneliness and rebellion at a young age?
4. When did you discover you battled loneliness in your life? When did you find it had subsided? Does that mean you will never face those feelings again?
5. What are some of the vital elements of the prayers of Nehemiah? What did his prayers say about his emotional state?
6. How can we prepare every day for the spiritual battle from the enemy?
7. What is spiritual burnout and how can one detect it in their own life?
8. How does physical wellness relate to a person's spiritual pursuits?
9. You believe discouragement and selfishness are connected. How can this grip be broken?
10. You believe witnessing is a key to overcoming discouragement. What are some of the foundations of spiritual witnessing?
11. Why does God allow Christians to come under spiritual attack?
12. How did you become known as Billy Graham's pastor?
13. What are the seven rules of engagement while under spiritual attack?
14. How does spiritual armor play a part in overcoming discouragement?
15. What were some ways Jesus dealt with discouragement?