

Edward Christian Church *“Hope -The Anchor of Your Soul”* -pt 6

What an **Anchor** is to a **Ship**, **Hope** is to the **Soul**. They both **Stabilize - Hold Steady** amidst the **Storms** in life. Every Christian has been given a **Secure Anchor** in the **Person of Christ**...

"We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure." -Heb 6:19

What Are Different Types of Anchors?

Typically, ships at sea **cannot survive** the most **severe storms** without the **use of anchors**. And, **if you are anchorless** on the *"sea of life,"* you will **not survive**. However, as long as you have *an anchored life*, though **battered and bruised**, you will **still** be held **secure**. As long as you have an **anchored life**, you will **weather the storms of life**. Since there are *many types of anchors*, let's look at the following **five**.

Five Anchors for Any Condition

#1- The Mushroom Anchor— is used for **smaller** watercraft, Jesus **stabilizes** us as we **move** through the **"smaller,"** more **minor** problems of everyday living. He helps us **stay steady** with people who **gossip** and **gripe**, who **lie** and are **lazy**, who **pout** and are **petty**, who **annoy** and are **nosey**. Jesus **anchors** us when we have **frustrating friends**, **problems with pets**, **worry at work**... and the list goes on.

- **Biblical example:** Luke 5:4-5-*Jesus proves Himself to be our personal anchor* for everyday trials

#2- The Fluke Anchor (for example, the **"Danforth Anchor"**) **Lightweight**, but with **high** holding power. Like the fluke anchor, Jesus **stabilizes** us with a **powerful hold**... and a **sense of peace**. He is **strong / steady**, and His **presence** brings us **peace**—a *"lightness"* even in the **heaviest of circumstances**... the **death of a loved one**... a devastating **diagnosis**. When we are **struggling w- ourselves/ questioning our decisions**... when we have **unforeseen** challenges and changes... when we are **doubting who we are / doubting who He is**, Jesus **anchors**

us with His **power and peace**.

- **Biblical example:** Matthew 14:28-32

#3- The Plow Anchor—Usually **massive / heavy**, often able to swivel Jesus **stabilizes** us when **all** we can see all around us are **problems**. With its swivel capabilities, comes an **agility and ability** to anchor us through a variety of **situations**—**poor choices**... **money problems**... **prodigal loved ones**... **painful losses**. When our **problems** are **perplexing**... and **what we see doesn't make sense**, Jesus **never fails** to be our **anchor**. **Biblical example:** Mark 6:47-52

#4- The Claw Anchor—Originally designed for **offshore gas / oil rigs** -Jesus **stabilizes** us when we are **victimized**—when **vehement verbal abuse, violence, or sexual abuse** claws the **heart / body**—leaving us **emotionally / spiritually scarred**. For the times when we **feel powerless**, Jesus is our **powerful anchor**—**holding us strong / secure**.

- **Biblical example:** Luke 8:22-25

#5- The Sea Anchor—Made of **sturdy cloth** like either a **giant sail** or a **parachute** lowered into the water to create a **drag** and **slow** the vessel down, especially when the **water depth is too great** for **other anchors** to **grab hold of the bottom** -Like the **sea anchor**, Jesus **stabilizes** us when we **feel like a ship flailing** in the water... **tossed from side to side** because of a **compulsive addiction or besetting sin**. In the **depth** of our **souls**, **He slows us down**, helping us to see how our **continual wrong choices** will **wreck our relationships** and **shatter our dreams**. Jesus **anchors** us when the **powerful waves of personal disappointment** leave us in **despair**—a **hopeless state** in which the **only recourse** seems to be **death**... **anything to end the pain**. Even in the most

turbulent times, Jesus is **there**—He's our **Anchor**... in the **deep**.

- **Biblical example:** Acts 27:14-15, 17, 20

When Jesus is your **anchor**, He can **hold you secure** in *any storm* because He has *power over every storm*.



Mushroom



Fluke



Plow



Claw



Sea Anchor