



EPISODE 22 | HOPE GUIDE

Bible Prophecy for the Grieving Mother
with Jessica Speas

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EPISODE 22 HOPE GUIDE

Welcome!

Hello sweet momma. Oh, how I wish you didn't need to be listening to a podcast on finding hope after pregnancy or infant loss. My heart breaks for you that you've experienced the loss of a baby.

I am so incredibly sorry for your loss.

I wish I could give you a big hug right now and tell you that you're not alone in your grief. I am here to walk this heartbreaking journey with you. I know firsthand how devastating, life-changing, and sorrowful it is to lose a baby.

My sweet daughter, Bridget Faith, was born into Heaven at 24 weeks into my first pregnancy in 2014. In my deep grief and sadness, I questioned how a good God could allow this to happen to me. As I wrestled with my faith, I came to a place of absolute surrender.

It's a long story (one you'll hear throughout our podcast episodes), but I learned to trust God and allow Him to heal my heart. In doing so, He led me to start a nonprofit ministry called Bridget's Cradles.

You can read more about what we do on our website (and in this Hope Guide), but our mission is to provide comfort, hope, and healing to families grieving the loss of a baby in Heaven. The Cradled in Hope Podcast is an extension of our ministry with the same mission.

We firmly believe that surrendering our suffering to God will allow us to find joy again. He can heal our hearts and use our grief for good. And most importantly, through faith in His son, Jesus, we have the hope to see our babies again in Heaven. Jesus has defeated death and He promises us eternal life with Him and our babies. Though we may grieve, we do not grieve without hope.

With Hope,

Ashley Opliger



Show Notes



EPISODE 22 WITH JESSICA SPEAS

Join us for a conversation with Jessica Speas about Bible Prophecy and The End Times. This is an opportunity for grieving mothers to learn more about Bible Prophecy and the hope we have as we await Jesus' Second Coming. With a third of the Bible being about prophecy, this is a topic we cannot ignore as Christ-followers.

In our season of grief and in this broken world we live, our hope can only be found in Jesus who has promised to return to this earth to rule and reign. Jessica, a grieving mom herself, is passionate about teaching Bible Prophecy and encouraging women to "look up" for their Blessed Hope.

In this episode, we answered these questions:

- Why does Bible Prophecy matter to the grieving mom?
- Why aren't more people talking about prophecy?
- What will the future Heaven be like?
- When will we be reunited with our babies?
- What is the rapture and when will it happen in the timeline?
- Who is the Anti-Christ and what will he do?
- What is the Seven-Year Tribulation and the mark of the beast?
- What End Times signs should we be looking for?
- Why is prophecy centered on Israel?
- What is globalism and how does it play a role?
- How can I find hope in these difficult days?
- Where in the Bible can I read about the End Times?
- What other resources are available to learn more about Bible Prophecy?

Find the full episode transcript [here](#).



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Show Notes



KEY VERSES FROM THE EPISODE

- And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. **-John 14:3 NIV**
- Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear it and take to heart what is written in it, because the time is near. **-Revelation 1:3 NIV**
- No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Be on your guard and stay alert! For you do not know when the appointed time will come. **-Mark 13:32-33 BSB**
- And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Look! God's dwelling place is now among the people, and He will dwell with them. They will be His people, and God Himself will be with them and be their God. 'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." **-Revelation 21:3-4 NIV**
- Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—His good, pleasing and perfect will. **-Romans 12:2 NIV**
- But our citizenship is in Heaven and we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, who by the power that enables Him to bring everything under His control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like His glorious body. Therefore, my brothers, you whom I love and long for, my joy and crown. That is how you should stand firm in the Lord, dear friends..
-Philippians 3:20-4:1 NIV



BLESS GRIEVING MOMS WITH A REVIEW

If you've been encouraged by our podcast, would you [write a quick review on iTunes](#)? Think of it as spending two minutes of your time to invite a grieving mom to listen in on the message of hope you've just heard. We would be so grateful for your review and 5-star rating. Click [here](#) for instructions/videos on how to leave a review in case you haven't left one before. Thank you so much!

LEAVE A REVIEW

Show Notes



+ OUR GUEST | JESSICA SPEAS



Jessica is a mom of four, one living in Heaven, and lives a sweet Southern life out in the country in Tennessee. She spends her time homeschooling, homemaking, and pouring into her Bible prophecy ministry.

Jessica regularly posts about prophecy on her Instagram page and hosts weekend retreats for women passionate about prophecy.

Connect with Jessica

Etsy: [SweetEverAfterShop](#)
(Her Bible Timeline is sold here ^)

Instagram: [@jessica_speas](#)

Facebook Group: Ladies Looking Up
(DM Jessica to add you to this group ^)

↖ these are clickable!

+ OUR HOST | ASHLEY OPLIGER



Ashley is the Executive Director of Bridget's Cradles, a nonprofit organization based in Wichita, Kansas that donates cradles to over 1,250 hospitals in all 50 states and comforts over 26,000 bereaved families a year.

Ashley is married to Matt and they have three children: Bridget (in Heaven), and two sons. She is a follower of Christ who desires to share the hope of Heaven with families grieving the loss of a baby.

Connect with Ashley

Web: www.ashleyopliger.com
www.bridgetscradles.com

Facebook: [/ashleyopliger](#)
Instagram: [@ashleyopliger](#)

Show Notes

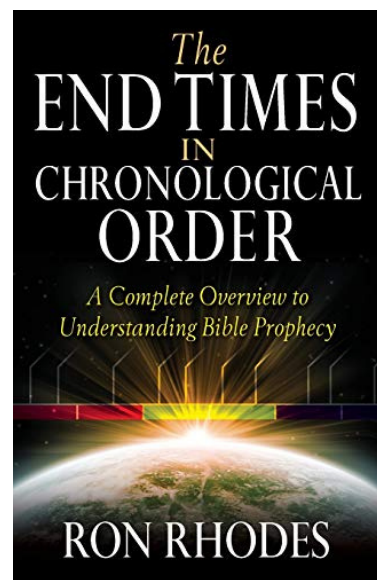


END TIMES / PROPHECY RESOURCES

In **The End Times in Chronological Order**, bible prophecy expert Ron Rhodes offers an easy-to-understand yet detailed chronology and explanation of end-times events.

The chapters are arranged around the major end-times themes: the rapture, the tribulation, the millennial kingdom, and the eternal state. Each chapter begins with a list of the specific events it covers, making this an extremely user-friendly chronological guide to end-times biblical prophecy.

Rhodes allows for various interpretations among Christians. Yet the sequence he describes is faithful to the biblical text, based on a literal approach to prophecy, and held by many Bible scholars.



[PURCHASE BOOK](#)

Athey Creek Prophecy Update:



Athey Creek has a monthly Prophecy Update: a review of current events and how they relate to Biblical prophecy and the End Times.

[LISTEN OR WATCH NOW](#)

Prophecy Pros Podcast:

Two experts. One topic. No Confusion. Show hosts, Jeff Kinley and Todd Hampson, are on a mission to reach the next generation with the inspiring, hopeful message found in Bible prophecy on the **Prophecy Pros Podcast**.

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PROPHECY
PROS
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Show Notes



DISCUSSION / APPLICATION QUESTIONS

- Jessica shares that no one thinks of Heaven more than those who have lost someone because it makes it more real to you. Do you feel this to be true after the loss of your baby? When you think of Heaven, what do you think of and what questions do you have? Share your thoughts on Heaven below.

- Ashley and Jessica talk about the resurrected bodies we will have at the Rapture. This includes our sweet babies who have passed. Can you imagine this moment? Spend some time in prayer imagining this beautiful reunion you will have with your baby. What feelings and images come up?

- This was a heavy episode with a lot of information on the End Times and Bible Prophecy. How much of it did you already know and how much was new information? What questions do you have? Write down areas you want to study more. How does talking about the End Times make you feel? Scared? Excited? Worried? Hopeful. Process your thoughts in the space below.



Pinnable Graphics

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Cradled in Hope



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#CRADLEDINHOPE
@BRIDGETSCRADLES

No one thinks of Heaven more than a grieving mom. I think it's an opportunity for us to be all the more fixated on Heaven and all the more focused on our Savior and not to be living for this earthly world, but be focused on His Kingdom that will have no end.

Ashley Opliger

Cradled in Hope Episode 22

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Grieving moms have a platform they never asked for, but still is. People want to know their thoughts, their views, their belief of where their baby is.

JESSICA SPEAS

Bridget's Cradles®

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And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Look! God's dwelling place is now among the people, and He will dwell with them. They will be His people, and God Himself will be with them and be their God. 'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away."

REVELATION 21:3-4 NIV

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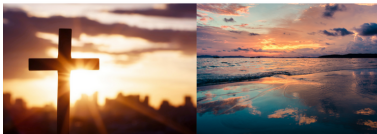
EPISODE 22
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But our citizenship is in Heaven and we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, who by the power that enables Him to bring everything under His control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like His glorious body. Therefore, my brothers, you whom I love and long for, my joy and crown. That is how you should stand firm in the Lord, dear friends..

-Philippians 3:20-4:1 NIV

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CRADLED IN HOPE PODCAST
EPISODE 22




And I always hear grieving moms say, "One day closer. We're one day closer." We're always one day closer to Heaven, but that day is approaching and it's coming soon, real fast.

Jessica Speas

Bridget's Cradles®

Jessica Speas



Studying Bible Prophecy, it lights a fire in you, and that's what God intended it to do. He didn't intend it to be this confusing thing that we should just push away. He intended it to be a blessing to you, to look for our Blessed Hope coming, to be in anticipation of this. This was a gift He's given us.

Cradled in Hope Podcast - Episode 22

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View and pin episode graphics from our Pinterest board [here](#).

More Resources



HOPE GATHERINGS ONLINE



Ashley Opliger
BRIDGET'S CRADLES

Join our Christ-centered monthly online support group led by Ashley Opliger, Bridget's mom and Executive Director of Bridget's Cradles. The group is focused on finding hope and healing through God in community with each other and is open to any mom in the United States who has lost a baby due to miscarriage, stillbirth, or infant loss. For upcoming dates, please visit

www.bridgetscradles.com/hopeonline.



JOIN OUR FACEBOOK GROUP

Join our Cradled in Hope community of Grieving Moms:



More Resources



CATCH UP ON PAST EPISODES



EPISODE 1:
Welcome to Cradled in Hope
with Ashley Opliger

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EPISODE 2:
Finding Peace After Miscarriage
with Alisha Illian

[LISTEN NOW](#)



EPISODE 3:
Navigating Pregnancy Loss
with Sarah Philpott

[LISTEN NOW](#)



EPISODE 4:
Grieving a Life-Limiting Diagnosis
with Amy Balentine

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EPISODE 5:
**Wrestling Well with God
through Recurrent Loss**
with Kristin Hernandez

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EPISODE 6:
**Raising a Rainbow Baby to
Remember Their Sibling in Heaven**
with Ashley & Branton Opliger

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EPISODE 7:
**Improving Hospital Experiences
for Grieving Families**
with Lori Beth Blaney

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EPISODE 8:
**How to Nurture a Grieving
Mother's Heart**
with Johanna Mutz & Denise Wolfe

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EPISODE 9:
**Anchored by the Gospel after
Losing My Baby to Cancer**
with Jess McClenahan

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More Resources



CATCH UP ON PAST EPISODES



EPISODE 10:
**Walking through the Valley of
the Shadow of Death**
with Avesha Stanley

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EPISODE 11:
**Pressing into the Pain
after Infant Loss**
with Lindsay Johnson

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EPISODE 12:
**Renewing Your Mind after
Pregnancy Loss**
with Alicia Michelle

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EPISODE 13:
**Coping with Hope
Through the Holidays**
with Ashley Opliger

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EPISODE 14:
**The Power of Community
for Grieving Mothers**
with foreknown Ministries

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EPISODE 15:
**Grieving with the
Gospel**
with Casey Nestor

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EPISODE 16:
**Courageously Expecting
After Loss**
with Jenny Albers

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EPISODE 17:
**Real Talk on
Pregnancy Loss**
with Rachel Lewis

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EPISODE 18:
**Strengthening Your Marriage
after Pregnancy Loss**
with Matt & Ashley Opliger

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More Resources



CATCH UP ON PAST EPISODES



EPISODE 19:

**When Wishes
Change**

with Fricia Roos

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EPISODE 20:

**Holding on to Love After
You've Lost a Baby**

with Candy McVicar

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EPISODE 21:

**Grieving Differently After
Pregnancy Loss**

with Moriah Rooney

[LISTEN NOW](#)

More Resources



✚ FIND HOPE + HEALING

Please visit www.bridgetscradles.com to find resources for hope and healing after the loss of a baby. We pray that something there will be helpful to you and provide hope as you grieve and remember your precious baby in Heaven.



Memorial Ideas

Ways to honor your baby in Heaven by remembering them in your home and daily life.

✚ ✚ ✚
CLICK HERE
TO READ
MORE ✚ ✚



Important Dates & Holidays

How to face difficult milestones and holidays in ways that bring peace and remembrance.

✚ ✚ ✚
CLICK HERE
TO READ
MORE ✚ ✚



Grieving & Healing

Ashley shares practical ideas that she found helpful in her grieving and healing journey.

✚ ✚ ✚
CLICK HERE
TO READ
MORE ✚ ✚

More Resources



✝ FIND HOPE + HEALING



Recommended Books

Christ-centered books that provide hope and healing after the loss of a baby

CLICK HERE
TO READ
MORE



Quotes & Bible Verses

A list of quotes and Bible verses to offer hope and healing for families who have experienced pregnancy or infant loss

CLICK HERE
TO READ
MORE



Helpful Resources

A list of organizations and websites focused on providing healing to families grieving the loss of a baby

CLICK HERE
TO READ
MORE

SIGN UP TO RECEIVE HOPE-FILLED EMAILS
+ PODCAST UPDATES + FREE RESOURCES

SIGN UP NOW

Our Organization



ABOUT BRIDGET'S CRADLES



Bridget's Cradles is a 501c3 nonprofit organization based in Wichita, Kansas. It was founded after Matt and Ashley Opliger's daughter, Bridget Faith, was born into Heaven on October 22, 2014. Ashley's mom, Teresa, had knit a small cradle for Bridget, and it allowed them to hold her in a special and dignified way.

Since then, Ashley and a team of amazing volunteers have been passionate about comforting bereaved families across the country. Bridget's Cradles now donates cradles to over 1,100 hospitals in all 50 states, hosts support groups & remembrance events, and provides hope-filled resources online.



WHAT WE DO



**DONATE CRADLES
TO HOSPITALS**



**PROVIDE SUPPORT
& RAISE AWARENESS**



**HOPE GATHERINGS
SUPPORT GROUPS**



**WAVE OF LIGHT
OCTOBER 15TH EVENT**



GIVE HOPE

Together, we can provide comfort and hope to more grieving families. Your support will allow us to carry out critical program services so that together we can comfort bereaved families now and in the future. Visit www.bridgetscradles.com/givehope.



Let's Connect

CONTACT

If you'd like to be in touch, please email us directly at:

info@bridgetscradles.com

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