



Hope in Times of Uncertainty

In the winter of 1776, George Washington and his army were on the brink of collapse. After a string of defeats in New York, the Continental Army had been chased across New Jersey by the British. Many soldiers deserted, supplies ran low, and even Congress fled Philadelphia, fearing capture. It seemed as though the Revolution was lost before it had truly begun. Yet Washington refused to surrender to despair. On Christmas night, he led his weary troops across the icy Delaware River to surprise the Hessian soldiers at Trenton. The victory didn't end the war, but it revived faith and reminded Americans that hope could survive even in the coldest of times.

Writing Prompt:

Think about Washington's decision to keep fighting when so much seemed hopeless. What gave him the strength to keep believing in his cause? Write about whether you think you could have done the same in his position. Then, connect this theme to your own life or to a story you know:

- When has hope helped someone push through a difficult challenge?
- Why is it important to hold on to hope, even when success seems impossible?