

“HOPE”

A Personal or Small Group Experience

I struggled this week with how to wrap up this series on community! We spent a great deal of time on the importance of the church being an “in Jesus Name Community” with no condemnation and a whole lot of grace and truth! These qualities are so important to God. This is His dream for His church that it be a community that was truly revolutionary in nature.

I realize everyday though that this journey is tough. It is so easy to lose heart and give up. Even in a context of grace and truth the change and growth God wants to produce in my life is challenging—that is why HOPE rounds out this series. The church should be a bastion of hope. Hope keeps us going. If there is hope then there is strength—there is life. Our sinful nature dwells on the hopeless things because that is the easiest. Satan always wants us to see the clouds so we will lose hope—then we are weak.

As we take a look at some HOPE passages discuss:

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How hopeful a person are you?

Who is someone that influenced you in your life that was hope filled?
What did you like about that person?

How do you know when you are losing hope?

What do these verses say to you personally about hope? What encouragements do you see and hear?

Pick out particular words and phrases that help you?!

Finally, be an “In Jesus Name” community for each other by giving and receiving hope from and for each other?

Romans 5:1-11

Isaiah 40:18-31

Psalms 27



Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD rises upon you.

Isaiah 60:1

“Connecting With God” Weekly Guide

This booklet is a resource to help you “Connect with God” this week. He deeply desires ongoing personal connection with you. You are that important to Him.

This Page has some scripture verses for you to meditate on each day this week. Notice the helpful hints section – these are great things to consider when personally engaging with God through His Word.

The Center Pages contain the notes and outline for the message given on Sunday. The message is also available as an audio download from www.pointofgracechurch.org

The Back Page has a study written specifically for a small group of people (or an individual) to drill down deeper into a particular aspect of the week’s theme. Small groups can review memorable points of the week’s message and then work through the study concluding with a time of prayer.

Scripture & Meditation Guide - November 8-13

Helpful Hints:

- 1) Find a quiet place along with 15-20 minutes!
- 2) Focus on God for a few moments asking His Spirit to speak to your heart!
- 3) Listen to Him by reading a section of scripture then rereading it several times, dwelling on “words and phrases” which grab your heart’s attention.

Ask God, “What do You want me to hear?” “Why this word at this time?”
“How are You inviting me to respond?”

- 4) Pray everything that is on your heart and mind as you are ready!

Worship Him, Bless Him, Thank Him, Ask Him, Trust Him

Monday: Romans 5:1-5

Tuesday: Romans 5:6-11

Wednesday: Isaiah 40:18-26

Thursday: Isaiah 40:27-31

Friday: Psalm 27

Saturday: Psalm 121