



SMALL GROUP LEADER'S GUIDE

SERIES - HOPE FOR EVERYONE

WEEK 5 - HOPE FOR EVERYONE

MESSAGE BIG IDEA

We, as the church, are to be carriers of God's hope. We have an incredible opportunity to bring his hope to everyone!

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 2:1-12, Luke 2:8-20, Genesis 12:1-4

ICE BREAKER AND OPENING THOUGHT

Use these questions to generate conversation. A useful metric for your group meeting is that everyone speaks at least once (not answering every question, but once overall) - these are designed to generate conversation.

BIBLE DISCUSSION

Reading scripture should be rotated around willing group members. Switch up translations from time to time to give a sense of 'freshness' to scripture if people in your group have a long familiarity with the Bible.

These passages show how God announces new, great news, and how the gospel's inclusivity has been there from the beginning. God's plan has always been for all peoples to come into a loving relationship with God. Allow your group to wrestle with the different ways that has and has not come to fruition.

LIFE APPLICATION

These questions are designed to help move your group members from thinking about church as something we consume to thinking about church as something each of us is responsible for helping to distribute to other people. The church is the hope of the world, and we all have our part to play.

To move forward, though, we must acknowledge the ways that this hasn't been a smooth, even ride. The church has made many mistakes. Allow your group to air those mistakes in a helpful way. Remind everyone that the church is the hope of the world, but it is also made up of broken people who need to be called into greater hope and knowledge to do better.

Thinking that we each have a part to play can be exhilarating, but it can also be uncomfortable. Your group might struggle with finding practical ways to do this during Covid, or they might not want to accept that responsibility. Remember that your group is made up of unique individuals who will be experiencing these things differently from each other and you. Some might be ready for this responsibility, and some might feel overwhelmed.

CHALLENGE

Over the next couple of weeks, as the holiday daze wears off, think about ways you could be a distributor of hope for your family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers. In many ways, 2020 was a challenging year for everyone - we could all use a little more hope in our lives! Find 3-4 ways you could spread that hope and pray that God can use you to spread hope to those in your circle.