



**TALK IT OVER**



**HOPE PROJECT**

## **WEEK 3**

*Group leader,*

*Please adapt this list of questions according to the unique make-up of your group. Larger/more talkative groups may want to skip optional questions. Consider using the chat for quick answers to questions with short answers (yes/no, a number, etc.)*



### **ICE BREAKERS**

- Did you ever have a coach/mentor who pushed you? How was it helpful to you?
- Do you have someone in your life now who challenges you to see your blind spots, focus on the right things, and be better? *(Hopefully, we can do that for each other in this group)*



### **READ**

#### **1 Peter 1:13**

*“So prepare your minds for action and exercise self-control. Put all your hope in the gracious salvation that will come to you when Jesus Christ is revealed to the world.”*



### **QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER**

1. The verse says “Prepare your minds for action.” Similarly, Pastor David said “Our feet will follow the direction of our thoughts.” What has your thoughts lately? What do you tend to get fixated on? (Philippians 4:8 - Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise)

2. How mentally alert would you say you have been recently, on a scale of 1-10? How would it help you in your spiritual life to be more alert? (We might miss what God is asking of us if we are not)
  3. David also said "The focus of my hope directs the movement of my life." What are you doing these days to keep the right focus? What can you start doing?
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## READ

### 1 Peter 1:14-16

"So you must live as God's obedient children. Don't slip back into your old ways of living to satisfy your own desires. You didn't know any better then. But now you must be holy in everything you do, just as God who chose you is holy. For the Scriptures say, 'You must be holy because I am holy.'"



## QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. Can you relate to being burned by religious control (Have you ever had a negative religious experience)? How is obedience to Jesus different?
2. How are you now different because of Jesus? How has he transformed your mind? (Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect. -- Romans 12:2)
3. Share about a time you didn't regret saying Yes to something God asked you to do.
4. Is there an area of your life you've been unwilling to surrender to God and trust him by acting in obedience? What might be off in your faith or thinking?
5. What areas of your life compete most for your hope and focus? Which of these do you turn to as an outlet these days? Education... Career... Money... Relationships... Health... Jesus... Fun... Netflix... How can you set your focus on Jesus so that these outlets are helpful rather than harmful?
6. (Optional) I wonder if any of you during this disruption are lacking hope because you're settling for good instead of fighting for God's best?



## READ

### 1 Peter 1:17-21

“For you know that God paid a ransom to save you from the empty life you inherited from your ancestors. And it was not paid with mere gold or silver, which lose their value. It was the precious blood of Christ, the sinless, spotless Lamb of God. God chose him as your ransom long before the world began, but now in these last days he has been revealed for your sake. Through Christ you have come to trust in God. And you have placed your faith and hope in God because he raised Christ from the dead and gave him great glory.”



## QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. Are you confident that you have placed your trust, faith, and hope in Jesus, and that God has saved you as described in v.18? (if anyone is unsure, make sure to follow up to see if they are ready to do this). How has doing that given you more hope or increased your self-worth?



## PRAYER

*Share prayer requests and pray...*

God we thank you that Jesus paid the price so that we could be saved for a meaningful life of faith and hope! Thank you for the people you put around us so that we can keep getting better and please you more in our thoughts and actions. Show us what you want from us and for us, help us to trust you and listen for your guidance. May you be our focus and our hope every day so that we don't miss out on anything you have for us, Father. In Jesus' name, Amen.