



TALK IT OVER



HOPE PROJECT

WEEK 5

Group leader,

Please have a plan ready for your Hope Service Project to discuss with your group at the end of your time together. Also, ask if anyone might be interested in being baptized on the 18th. We are praying you have an awesome group this week!



ICE BREAKERS

- Have you ever had a door to door evangelist come to your house? What did you say to them? How did their visit make you feel?
- Do you believe this approach bears fruit? Why or why not?



READ

1 Peter 3:13-18

“Now, who will want to harm you if you are **eager to do good**? But even if you suffer for doing what is right, God will reward you for it. So don’t worry or be afraid of their threats. Instead, you must worship Christ as Lord of your life. And if someone asks about your hope as a believer, always be ready to explain it. But **do this in a gentle and respectful way**. Keep your conscience clear. Then if people speak against you, they will be ashamed when they see what a good life you live because you belong to Christ. Remember, **it is better to suffer for doing good, if that is what God wants, than to suffer for doing wrong!** Christ suffered for our sins once for all time. He never sinned, but he died for sinners to bring you safely home to God. He suffered physical death, but he was raised to life in the Spirit.”



QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. Peter says we should be “eager to do good.” Who is someone you know who is eager to do good?
2. Hopeful people are helpful people. Why does helpfulness change our level of hopefulness? How does hope change the way we act? How are you helping/serving your community during COVID?
3. Peter says we should suffer for doing good rather than doing wrong. Why is it different to suffer for doing good as opposed to suffering for doing wrong? Can you think of a time you suffered for doing wrong? How does hope change the way we act?
4. How have you been challenged to be more generous lately? (*Hosts, please send any stories of people stepping out in generosity to vivian@echo.church*)
5. Pastor Andy said “How you frame it is how you feel it.” What does it look like to have a helpful perspective on suffering? How can you frame your current hardship with a hopeful perspective?
6. Why is it so important to have gentle and respectful words in our conversations with people who are not yet following Jesus? (*Optional*) If you aren’t a believer, how can others be helpful to you in your spiritual journey?
7. We are going to serve our community together this summer! Discuss and plan the Hope Service Project your group will do this summer.



PRAYER

Share prayer requests and pray...

God we thank you for being good and showing us how to do good like you do. Thank you for giving us so much Hope in the midst of suffering. Father show us how to have your perspective in our day-to-day difficulties. Show us how to walk in hope, how to be helpful and generous to others, and how to speak with grace as we represent you to the world. You are our source of hope and life and we will receive and share your hope today! In Jesus’ name, Amen.