

**1. Finding hope in God**

- a) Throughout the ages on a planet ravaged by sin, sickness and death, people have longed for a better day. Psalm 94:3-7; Habakkuk 1:2; Revelation 6:10
- b) What are some ways people search for hope?
- c) Where did the prophet choose to find his hope in the midst of troubled times? Lamentations 3:22-26
- d) When did you decide to find your hope in God?
- e) What parable of Jesus affirms our decision to find our hope in God? Luke 18:1-8

**2. An active hope**

- a) For the follower of Jesus, our hope is centered in the glorious return of Jesus. What important insights does Jesus relate in Matthew 24 about His return?
- b) How should we live while we wait for the glorious return of Jesus?
  - i) Matthew 24:45-51
  - ii) Matthew 25:14-15
  - iii) Matthew 25:31-40

**3. A resurrection hope**

- a) What precious truth did the early Christians boldly proclaim in the power of the Holy Spirit? Acts 4:33
- b) Why is the resurrection of Jesus such an important truth for Christians? 1 Corinthians 15:12-23

- c) Death is an enemy for the entire human family (1 Corinthians 15:26), but according to the apostle Paul, Christians do not grieve like those who have no hope. Why? 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17
- d) Share a time when you found comfort in the resurrection hope that is ours as followers of Jesus

**4. Hope in the time of the judgment**

- a) Many people feel hopeless when they consider the possibility of standing in judgment before a holy God. Matthew 12:36
- b) What word of hope can we offer from the Word of God to those who are afraid of the final judgment? John 5:22-24 (see also 1 John 1:9)
- c) 1 John 4:17-19 Do you know someone who is afraid of the final judgment? How can you help that person to replace fear with hope?

**5. Hope realized**

- a) 2 Peter 3:10-13 What are your thoughts about living in a new earth where righteousness dwells?
- b) Revelation 21:4, 22:1-5—a revelation by Jesus
- c) Some say this is just a fairy tale. Why should we trust this revelation given by Jesus?
- d) How should this inspired revelation affect our lives today, particularly the way we relate to those around us?

