



FINDING FAITH: Small Group Bible Study inspired by the movie "Hope"

INTRODUCTION

In *Hope*, a grieving family is forced to navigate the profound devastation of losing a child. In the aftermath of their tragedy, the family's faith is severely tested as they struggle with deep emotional grief and spiritual questioning. As the living members of the family search for comfort and purpose in the wake of their loss, the story explores the enduring bond of family, the pain of severe trials, and the pursuit of true, lasting faith amid brokenness. The film illustrates that when life is shattered by tragic loss, earthly coping mechanisms fall short, and ultimate comfort can only be found by looking to God's grace and the hope that Jesus won for us on the cross.



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. GRIEF ADMITS GOD'S SOVEREIGNTY

- In *Hope*, the family's world is turned upside down by the catastrophic loss of a child. Somehow, God remains sovereign over all of life, including our deepest sorrows, calling us to mourn with honest prayer while trusting His holy character.
- How does intense grief test a family's faith, and what are the dangers of allowing sorrow to turn into resentment toward God?
- Read Job 1:20-22 and Psalm 34:18. How do these passages demonstrate that we can express genuine sorrow without abandoning trust in God's goodness and sovereignty?



2. COMFORT IN THE MIDST OF SEVERE AFFLICTION

- As the family members navigate their sorrow, they search for ways to move forward and find emotional healing.
- Where do people often look for comfort during seasons of severe loss, and why might they fail?
- Read 2 Corinthians 1:3-5 and Psalm 119:50. What does it mean that God is the "Father of mercies and God of all comfort"? How does His Word give life and hope when our strength is gone?



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

3. THE ANCHOR OF BIBLICAL HOPE VS. WISHFUL THINKING



- "Hope" is central to the film's message. While the world treats hope as mere wishful thinking or optimistic wishing, our hope is a grounded assurance built entirely on the character of God and the finished work of Jesus Christ.

- How does our hope differ from the way culture around us views optimism and coping with tragedy?

- Read Hebrews 6:19-20 and Romans 15:13. How does having an "anchor for the soul" sustain a family through the storm of grief and uncertainty?

4. THE ROLE OF THE CHURCH FAMILY IN BEARING BURDENS

Tragedy often causes grieving individuals to isolate themselves from others. However, God designed the church body to come alongside each other to carry one another's burdens and point each other back to Jesus.

Read Galatians 6:2 and Romans 12:15. What should a church be like? Is yours like this? How might it need to change?

How can Christians practically mourn with those who mourn and support grieving families without offering superficial platitudes?



REFLECTION & APPLICATION

Where in your life do you need to hear that God is sovereign amidst your heartache? How might the hope we have in Jesus enable you to endure? Share specific ways you can better support family members, friends, or church members who are walking through seasons of deep tragedy and loss.



PRAYER

Praise God that His ways are not our own, and that He is powerful enough to bring good from the bad. Pray specifically for grieving families, asking the Lord to grant them His peace, restore their faith, and surround them with loving Christian community. Close by individually lifting up your own needs, concerns, and praises to God



CONCLUSION

Hope shows us that loss and tragedy are heavy realities in a fallen world, but they do not have the final say for those whose trust is in Christ. True strength and lasting comfort are found not in human answers, but in the unshakeable grace and promises of our heavenly Father. Hold fast to the anchor of gospel hope, knowing that God is faithful to sustain His children through every valley.