

Waiting For Hope



Part Three: How to Find Hope When Your Situation Feels Hopeless // Joseph Swan // December 20, 2020

You've held out for hope this year. The hope of lifted restrictions, the hope of a healthy diagnosis, or just hope for some good news. You know what it means to wait for hope. Maybe you're still waiting. The accounts of Christmas are a picture of humanity holding out for hope. The hope of something more, something better. Together we'll learn what to do in the waiting and discover that there's more hope than you might think.

Scripture: [Luke 7:11-15](#)

Bottom Line: Biblical hope is not based on circumstances; it is based on a person.

Getting Started:

1. What are you most looking forward to with Christmas this year?
2. Have there been times in your life when you have prayed and God has answered your prayers right away?

Jumping In:

3. Read the story from [Luke 7:11-15](#) together as a group. What stands out most to you about this story?
4. Have you ever been in a situation where you felt overwhelmed and helpless? How did you cope? What did you discover in that season?
5. Joseph mentioned that Christmas reminds us that we are not alone, that Jesus is Emmanuel, 'God with us.' Often we get distracted by our circumstances or get busy and forget that Jesus is present. What are some practical things you can do to help remind yourself that Jesus is with you?
6. Have there been some key verses from the Bible that have given you hope for the future in spite of your current circumstances? (Here are a few that Joseph mentioned have helped him: [1 John 4:4](#), [Philippians 4:13](#), and [Psalm 23](#).) Share the verses with your group. Read them out loud and spend time praying that each group member would experience hope this Christmas.

Moving Forward:

Jesus brought this woman's dead son back to life! Her son represented her dream for a better future. Do you have any dreams that you feel may have died this past year? Spend some time encouraging each other as a group. Remind one another that God is always with us, and despite what our circumstances may look like, he is not done yet.