



discussion starters.

April 11th | Finding Hope

We invite you to take the content of our Sunday Morning worship hour, and discuss with a friend, your family, or your LIFEgroup each week. This is meant to be a guide for your discussions and can be used as a launching point or complete study outline. Feel free to choose all, many or even just one that will work best for your LIFEgroup.

SUMMARY.

Trials don't bring peace or pleasure, but they are sure to bring hope. Romans 5 guides us through the pathway from trial to hope. He is The God of the Valleys, and will bring us through. Seeking after Him, reminding ourselves of His promises and character, and working through our authentic emotions can bring healing. Transformed character and new-found hope will bring Glory to God in new ways as we share our stories with others.

A SCRIPTURE TO READ.

"3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, 4 who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God."

2 Corinthians 1:3-4

"2 Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters,[a] whenever you face trials of many kinds, 3 because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. 4 Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything."

James 1:2-4(NIV)

"1Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we[a] have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, 2 through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we[b] boast in the hope of the glory of God. 3 Not only so, but we[c] also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; 4 perseverance, character; and character, hope. 5 And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us."

Romans 5:1-5 (NIV)

B QUESTIONS TO ASK.

1 What trials have you faced that have caused you to persevere?

2 Talk about how God worked (or is currently working) on your character through that trial. Did you miss out on God's hope because you were not focused on God and His promises? What hope did you see amidst the trial?

3 What stories do you have in your life that can help others when they face similar ones? What would your stories point out about God's character and hope?

C APPLICATION | CHALLENGE.

What is God speaking to you about?

What is He calling you to do about it?

We would love to hear your highlights from this discussion so please email us at office@avonwesleyanchurch.com or text us at 585-622-4575.

D ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES & RESOURCES.

Visit our webpage www.avonwesleyanchurch.com/lifegroups for more resources and to watch bonus content.

These additional resources may include videos from The Bible Project, worship songs, and others for our younger kids.

E QUESTIONS FOR FAMILIES WITH KIDS

**1**

When we give our hearts to Jesus, we are set in motion.....What should we be doing while we move?

2

What makes it hard to share our faith with others?

3

Is it easier to share our faith when we know someone is hurting and needs Jesus?

4

How do we meet people where they are? What does that mean? Think of an example with your group/family.