

1. What do you wish was different in your past? In your present? In the world?
2. What do you hope for?
3. What do you put your hope in?

### **Don't Hope in Wealth**

*Luke 12:16-21 - <sup>16</sup>And he told them this parable: "The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. <sup>17</sup>He thought to himself, 'What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.' <sup>18</sup>"Then he said, 'This is what I'll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store my surplus grain. <sup>19</sup>And I'll say to myself, "You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.'" <sup>20</sup>"But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?' <sup>21</sup>"This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God."*

4. How do we place our hope in our wealth? (Savings, Retirement, Things, Safety Net)
5. How do we lose hope when we don't have wealth? (Worry, Despair,
6. Why is financial wealth not a good thing to place our hope in, and not a good thing to lose our hope without?
7. Does God want us to be wealthy? Why or why not?
8. What is a godly view to have of wealth?

*Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.*

*Malachi 3:10 - Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.*

9. Do you think that these promises are relevant to us today?
10. What do these verses tell us about how God views us and wealth?
11. What has been your experience with wealth, hope, and God?

### **Don't Hope In Relationships**

Read John 4:1-26 – The Woman at the Well

12. Do you think that this woman was searching for hope in relationships?
13. How can we wrongly look for hope in relationships rather than in Jesus?
14. How are relationships important to our faith and hope?

### **Don't Hope in Power**

*John 19: 7-11 - <sup>7</sup>The Jewish leaders insisted, "We have a law, and according to that law he must die, because he claimed to be the Son of God." <sup>8</sup>When Pilate heard this, he was even more afraid, <sup>9</sup>and he went back inside the palace. "Where do you come from?" he asked Jesus, but Jesus gave him no answer. <sup>10</sup>"Do you refuse to speak to me?" Pilate said. "Don't you realize I have power either to free you or to crucify you?" <sup>11</sup>Jesus answered, "You would have no power over me if it were not given to you from above. Therefore the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin."*

15. Where do you think that Pilate was placing his hope?

16. How can power cause us to not hope in Christ?

### **Don't Hope in Your Physical Body**

*Luke 8:43-48 - <sup>43</sup> And a woman who had suffered a chronic flow of blood for twelve years, and could not be healed by anyone, <sup>44</sup> came up behind Him and touched the fringe of His cloak, and immediately her bleeding stopped. <sup>45</sup> And Jesus said, "Who is the one who touched Me?" And while they were all denying it, Peter said, "Master, the people are crowding and pressing in on You." <sup>46</sup> But Jesus said, "Someone did touch Me, for I was aware that power had left Me." <sup>47</sup> Now when the woman saw that she had not escaped notice, she came trembling and fell down before Him, and admitted in the presence of all the people the reason why she had touched Him, and how she had been immediately healed. <sup>48</sup> And He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace."*

17. How does being physically sick impact you?

18. How does being sick impact your faith?

19. How does hope relate to our health?

*Jeremiah 17:7 - "Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, and whose hope is the LORD."*

20. What does it look like to hope in the Lord?

21. Do you find it harder to hope in Christ when things are going great or when things are going horribly?

22. What are some things besides Jesus that you have a tendency to put your hope in?

23. How can you help others to put their hope in Christ?