

Discussion Questions
LIVING HOPE – Instilling Hope
Taught on May 12, 2019

In your life, who have been some of the most hope instilling people?

How did they instill hope in you?

What did you think when you found out that the United States is the 5th loneliest country (behind Sweden, the UK, Japan & Italy)? Or that the average American hasn't made a friend in five years?

Why do you believe this is the case?

How does that impact feelings of hopelessness?

There were four ways described on Sunday for how we can instill hope in someone's life. Let's walk through each of them:

1. I can remind them who God is.

Read Psalm 78:4

What are some of the "glorious deeds" about God and who he is that you would tell someone who was feeling hopeless? How would these instill hope?

2. I can remind them of what is true.

In the valley of despair, it can be hard to have perspective and easy to buy into lies like "God is punishing me" and "God can't love me." What other lies can you think of that people may accept when feeling hopeless?

How would you instill hope in someone who has believed these things?

3. I can remind them whose they are.

Addressing who we are in Christ, and who God declares us to be puts things into perspective when hopelessness starts to overwhelm us. As a group, call out different words or phrases that complete this sentence:

You are _____.

Which of these phrases are you most likely to use to instill hope in someone?

4. I can remind them how they matter.

Read Psalm 139:13-14, Ephesians 2:10, and John 3:16.

How does each of these passages instill hope in someone?

Take a moment and think of someone who needs you to instill hope. If appropriate, share it with your group before you take time to pray.