



24-7 SPACES

THE VISION IS JESUS

WEEK ONE:

THE HOPE OF JESUS

USE THIS DEEPER GUIDE ALONE,
WITH FAMILY OR FRIENDS OR YOUR CHURCH
SMALL GROUP



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CONTENTS



1. Reflect: considering hope pg.3
2. React: journaling or discussion pg.4
3. Respond: get practical pg.5



MATERIALS NEEDED

- A Bible
- Newspapers
- Candles

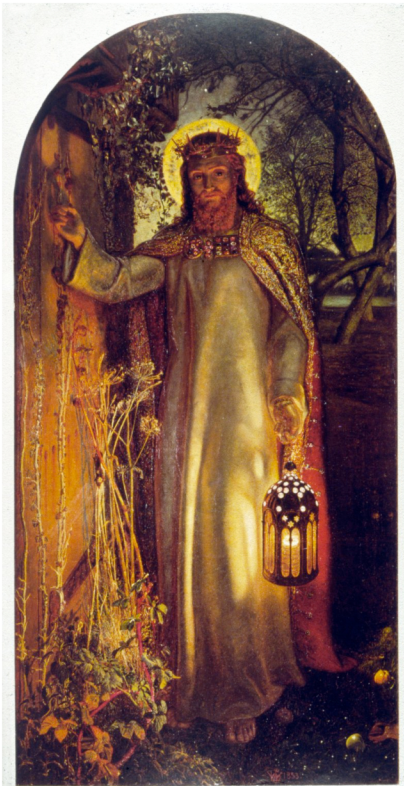




REFLECT:

The following Bible verses, quote and picture are related to this week's theme: The Hope of Jesus. As you read them consider what they say about to us about hope.

Read: Isaiah 9:2, Revelation 22:16-17 and 20, Isaiah 52:7-8, Isaiah 42:5-8, Matthew 11:2-6, Isaiah 52:7-8



Study the picture: "Holman Hunt - Light of the World"

Consider: "Here I am, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him and he with me" (Revelation 3:20)



Read: *"Light of lights! All gloom dispelling,
Thou didst come to make thy dwelling
Here within our world of sight.
Lord, in pity and in power,
Thou didst in our darkest hour
Rend the clouds and show thy light.
Praise to thee in earth and heaven
Now and evermore be given,
Christ, who art our sun and shield.
Lord, for us thy life thou gavest,
Those who trust in thee thou savest,
All thy mercy stands revealed."*

St. Thomas Aquinas





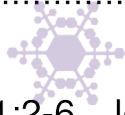
REACT:

(1) In the Bible passages: what words, phrases and images describe hope?

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(2) Read Matthew 11:2-6. Jesus sent the disciples to tell John about the hopeful things that were happening. What hopeful stories can you share?

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(3) Often we can be overwhelmed by so much bad news that there is no room for good news. Read through this week's newspapers; what would good news would look like in our world?

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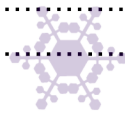
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(4) Who are the people, and where are the places in your neighborhood that need the hope of Jesus today?

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(5) Hope is described as light in darkness, where is the darkness around you? How can you bring the "Light of lights" (St. Thomas Aquinas)?

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(6) Look at the Holman Hunt painting 'Light of the World' and read Revelation 3:20. Contemplate how Christ knocks on the doors of our lives. How can we offer the welcome of God to those that don't know him this Christmas?.....

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RESPOND:

Personal

Where has darkness or hopelessness snuck into your life? Where do you need to reclaim God's promises of hope?

Write down God's promises of hope for you and carry them around this Christmas season.



Practical



How you could be a spark of light this week?

Think of a person or group of people that need hope. Perhaps you know someone who is alone this Christmas. You could visit them or invite them to share Christmas with you. Take some Christmas food and a drink to sit and share with a homeless person, buy them a Christmas gift and spark light into their lives.

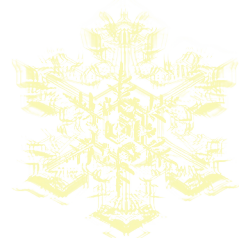


Prayerful

Go to an area in your neighborhood that needs hope this Christmas. Light a candle and as it burns pray that the hope of Jesus would bring light into the darkness.

Leave a candle on the doorstep of someone who needs His hope; attach a prayer for that person.

Use the "Maranatha" prayer "Oh Lord Come" this Christmas season.

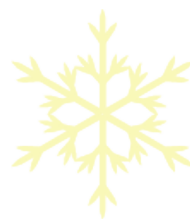


NEXT WEEK...

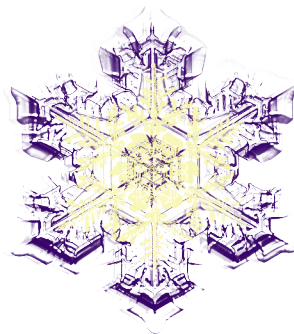


“THE PEACE OF JESUS”

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