

## Ten Stories of Hope

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|-----------------------------|---------------|
| 1. A party at Levi's        | Mark 2:1-17   |
| 2. Nicodemus at night       | John 3:1-19   |
| 3. A transformed life       | Mark 5:1-20   |
| 4. A memorable act          | Luke 7:37-50  |
| 5. The lost son returns     | Luke 15:11-32 |
| 6. Ten men healed           | Luke 17:11-19 |
| 7. What God sees            | Luke 18:9-14  |
| 8. I'm coming to your house | Luke 19:1-10  |
| 9. Hungry for God           | John 4:1-42   |
| 10. Seeds and soils         | Mark 4:1-20   |

### Discovery Questions

1. What are you thankful for this week?
2. What is stressful or challenging this week?
3. Who needs help? How can we help them?
4. Recap: What was the scripture from last time, and did you follow through on your "I will" and sharing with someone what you learned?

**5. Scripture passage for today:**

-Have one person **READ the passage aloud**, then another **READ it out loud again**. Read it again if needed.

-Then **RETELL the passage** in your own words as a group, without looking. Check afterwards to see how you did.

**Then, work through these four questions as a group:**

- a. What does this passage teach us about **God**?
  - b. What does this passage teach us about **us/people**?
  - c. If this is true, what will you do differently in the next few days? **(I WILL...)**
  - d. With whom will you **share** this passage before we meet next?
6. When will we next meet?

### If you are facilitating the group...

1. As the facilitator, your role is to be the **question asker, rather than the answer giver**, so that Scripture is the teacher, not you. Let people *discover and respond for themselves* without you or someone else in the group teaching or explaining answers.

**Keep asking, "What else?" until it feels like you're done.**

2. Ask people to focus on and share answers that *are discovered in the current Bible passage only, or others you've already read together*, rather than bringing in other Bible passages.

If someone...

- asks a question that the passage doesn't answer,
- shares something from a different passage, or
- says something that seems outlandish or off, graciously ask,

**"(Where) Do we see that in this passage?"**

3. **Be specific and concrete** with your "I WILL" statements (how will you live differently this week?) For example, saying "I will invite my neighbors for dinner this week" is more concrete than, "I will love my neighbors." If someone says a very general "I WILL, you can ask, **"How specifically might you do that this week?"**
4. **After leading for a couple of weeks, invite someone else in the group to be the facilitator/ask the questions next time.** Or, you can break the questions up so each person asks one.
5. If your group is large, and you struggle getting through all the questions, consider breaking the group into smaller bunches of 2-4 people for some of the questions (i.e. thankful and stressful, did you follow through, what is your "I WILL, etc.).
6. If someone new wants to join once you've already been going for a few weeks, show them how you do it and encourage them to start their own group.
7. If a question is asked that this text doesn't answer, say, "That may become clearer in later weeks."