



alive
again!

A NEW HOPE DAWNS!

Small Group Questions Week 1

1. What do we mean when we say, "I hope this happens"? Are we saying we know for sure it will happen? The definition for the Greek word "hope" is *elpis* which means "a settled confidence that what has been promised will happen". How is this different from the English word we use?
2. Why is it so important for humans to have hope? What does it do for us? For those who do not believe in God, what hope do they have?
3. Read Romans 15:13. What must we do in order for the Holy Spirit to give us hope? Why do you think we need to do this to have hope?
Answer—It says that we must trust in God. The reason we can have hope is because of God's character—he cannot lie so whatever he says we can know for sure that it is the truth and whatever he promises will happen. If you do not trust God, then you will not trust in what he says or what he promises. Without God, there is no certainty in this life.
4. Go around your group and see how many things you can think of that we can have hope in because the Bible tells us it is true.
Answer—Pretty much you can list anything here that God promises to us. For example, I can have hope that God will meet all my needs if I am a generous, giving person. I can have hope that my marriage will be good if I apply Biblical principles of marriage in my life. I can have hope that I will see believers I knew who have already died.
5. Pastor Rick said in his sermon that the disciples had lost all hope when Jesus was crucified. Why should they have never lost their hope?
Answer—Jesus had told them that he was going to die but that he would rise from the dead. Read Matthew 20:17-19.
6. How does the hope you have as a Christian change your life? How does it affect the way you see death?