



April 13-14, 2024

### Opening Conversation Starters

- Share a meal together.
- Share an experience from your daily devotions (How is God at work in your life?)
- Share a takeaway from the Weekend Message (What has God been saying?)

### Discussion Questions from Weekend Message (To help you hear *and* practice)

- When have you experienced a feeling of homesickness? How did you communicate with your family during those times?
- Read [Psalms 42](#). From verses 3-4, describe the hopelessness the writer feels. Has there been a time in your life that you felt that way?
- Read [2 Kings 14:11-14](#). This takes place in a dark time of Israel's history, where the nation was divided into two kingdoms, one in the north, Israel, and one in the south, Judah. How would it have felt to be one of those hostages? How does this match what the writer of Psalms 42 was describing?
- Sometimes it's easy to believe what other people say, even though we know it isn't true. What question affected the Psalmist in verses 3 and 10? Who was asking that question? What clues do you find in other verses that he is beginning to believe it? (Verses 2,3,9). Is there a false message you have believed in the past?
- Pastor Ivie said to keep our eyes fixed on Jesus in order to have hope. See [Hebrews 12:2](#). How would this also keep us from believing false messages?
- Describe the many expressions of hopelessness in Psalms 42:3, 5a, 6, 9, & 10.

### Prayer Time

Pastor Ivie reminded us to have an eternal perspective to find hope. Close your meeting in an extended prayer time, celebrating the many names and attributes of God that give us hope. (See verses 2, 5b, 9, & 11). Consider also praying for anyone in your group that might be experiencing those expressions of hopelessness above.

### Rhythms of Discipleship



Prayer

We closed this week with a mini prayer experience. To dedicate an entire meeting to prayer, consider using one of the prayer experiences listed on our [Life Groups Website](#), [Leader Helps](#), [7 Rhythms](#).