

LIVING BY FAITH

Week 5 – FEB 2-8



New Hope | Small Groups



SMALL GROUP GUIDELINES:

SAFE GROUP: everyone can be real, open, and honest with their struggles and victories.

CONFIDENTIALITY: What is said in the group stays in the group.

LISTEN: really listening to what is being shared. Try to avoid thinking about how you are going to respond, or what you are going to say next.

PAUSE: Give the person sharing the chance to finish and the group the opportunity to consider what was just shared before responding.

NO "CROSS TALK": Be considerate of others as they are sharing. No side conversations.

NO FIXING: We are not here to fix each other. Jesus does that part. Give encouragement; speak truth, and point to Jesus.

NO RESCUING: When people are sharing something deeply personal resist the temptation to rescue them by giving advice. This will often cause them to stop sharing.

SHARING: Be sensitive about the amount of time you share.

BE SELF-AWARE: Be self-aware of how you are personally effecting the environment through your words, actions, and non-verbal communication.

USE "I" STATEMENTS: It's easy to talk about the issues of others, but for our purposes, we want you to put yourself on the table. Try to use "I" statements rather than "them", "the church", "us", "we", etc.

CONFLICT: When conflict or sin issues arise, we want to make sure that we are honoring God and each other in the way we deal with these issues.

Small Group Evening Schedule:

10min - Hangout time

10min - Welcome, Opening Prayer, Group Guidelines, Announcements
- **REMINDER:** This is the last week of fasting.

10min - Follow-up discussion about Sunday's Sermon
- What is one thing you learned? What challenged you?

40min - **Storying through scripture:**

As we continue in this a season of prayer and fasting we want God to increase our faith in what He is capable of doing. Pastor Tim taught on Noah's faith on Sunday. Today, we are going to read a passage in Hebrews to encourage us to continue in faith.

SCRIPTURE: Hebrews 10:19-25

DISCUSSION:

According to this passage, how can you have an unswerving hope & faith? _____

How can you persevere when you're being attacked? _____

What have you done in the past keep pressing on with God? _____

READ: Hebrews 10:26-31

Why is our sin such a big deal with God? What does our sin do to God? _____

Thinking about the world in Noah's time, what brought God to the point of flooding the world? What in our time is similar? _____

What does sin do to our faith? Is there sin that is getting in the way of your relationship with God or others? _____

James 5:16 - "Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed." We'd encourage you to pray together and be right with God so your faith will be unhindered.

10min - Share prayer requests & pray.

(one person write requests and email or text to the rest of the group)