

TRADITIONS

HOPE

The BIG Idea Team, Individual and Family Study Guide

Please take time to run through this study guide with your team, on your own, or with your family so that you can further apply and process the BIG Idea.

Big Idea:

Christ is our hope in the face of our problems and struggles in a world that seems so hopeless.

Key Verse:

Read Ephesians 3:20-21 (The Message)

God can do anything, you know—far more than you could ever imagine or guess or request in your wildest dreams! He does it not by pushing us around but by working within us, his Spirit deeply and gently within us.

Glory to God in the church!

Glory to God in the Messiah, in Jesus!

Glory down all the generations!

Glory through all millennia! Oh, yes!

The Scoop:

We begin to think with greater possibilities when we have hypothetical conversations like “If you won the lottery...” or “If you could have any superhero power...” As we discuss, we typically describe situations where an incredible amount of hope drives our conversation. We see our bills paid, our debt gone, college education paid for, retirement assured, or a world where we could solve its problems, eliminate crime, or even be a god.

As we live our day to day lives, we often lose hope in the midst of struggles and the struggles in the lives of those around us. Even as we anticipate good things we don’t often see things as big or great as they could be.

1. In what life situations have you felt the most hopeful?
2. What hope/dream do you have that you struggle to believe God will come through on?
3. Can you think of a time when God has greatly exceeded your expectations?
4. In what ways have you lost hope or forgotten what God has done in your life?

What’s Next? (take home/further processing/application)

Spend the next 7 days praying about the hope you shared as an answer to Question #2. Pray for God to exceed your expectations, be excitedly patient, and confident that God will provide an answer.