

## HOPE

LIVING WITH CONFIDENT EXPECTATION

## WEEK 5:

SHARING  
YOUR  
STORY

## SERIES DESCRIPTION:

We are people of hope! As Christians we know Jesus walks with us through our joys and sorrows, our times of contentment and our times of pain. Easter is here—and with it the new life we find in Jesus!

## BIG IDEA:

Too many people are placing their hope in temporal promises or drowning out despair in addiction. Some are seeking hope – but are not sure where to turn; while others have turned away – but know something is missing in their lives. As Christians, we are called to share our stories of how Christ has worked in our lives and the ways it has made all the difference in the world. Our stories become sources of hope for others.



## MEETING STRUCTURE:

While each group is a little different, every group meeting time should include a few core components. Most groups meet for about 1 ½ hours. Here is a guide for how to spend your time together. For tips on a successful online meeting, see our Online Etiquette Guide.

**15 min** – Catch Up and Check-In Time

**Opening Prayer:** *Loving and Gracious God, thank you for this day. We pray that our hearts and minds will be opened to your Spirit, that we may grow in the love and knowledge of You and one another. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.*

**15 min** – Video (provide link reference)

**45 min** – Discussion Guide

**15 min** – Closing Prayer and Group Planning



## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Can you think of any good storytellers? Perhaps you've heard them in a podcast or a TED Talk. Maybe you've read their stories in articles, essays or books. What makes someone a good storyteller?
2. How did you first encounter Jesus? Did someone share the story of Jesus with you?
3. Read John 4: 4-29.
  - Pastor Jason said, "When we care about people, people care about what we have to share." In what ways did Jesus care for the woman at the well?
  - What do you think happened to the woman that changed her life?
  - What do you think happened when she shared her story of hope with her village?
  - Jesus already knew the woman's story; Jesus already knows your story. How would it make you feel to hear Jesus tell you your own story? What would be your response?
4. Take a moment to consider your own life, your own story. How do you see God working in and through it?
5. How do you think sharing your story of how God works in your life can cultivate hope in others? In our communities? In the world?



### CHALLENGE:

We aren't meant to keep our stories to ourselves. Our stories of hope are meant to be shared with others! Take some time this week to think about your own story and who you might share it with – maybe a close friend or family member, or you could post it on social media. If you do share your story online, be sure to use the hashtags **#HopeStories** and **#ResurrectionHope**. We can't wait to see how Jesus changed your story and brought you hope!