

02

session 2

HOPE IN DARKNESS

as you go

These are simple questions to ask your students as you go home from church or go about your weekly activities.

.01 Has there ever been a time you hoped for something to happen, even though it seemed unlikely? How were you able to remain hopeful?

.02 Why do we sometimes only hear what we want to hear, even when it's far from the truth? Can you think of an example?

family DEVOTION

Consider following up with your student later in the week with the following summary and discussion questions.

summary: EZEKIEL 11:2-4,14-21

Even though many of the Israelites were in exile in Babylon, some of them remained in Jerusalem. Their leaders mistakenly believed that they were safe from God's judgment within their city walls, and were telling the people that it was safe to return to life as usual. This was false hope: there was still judgment coming. Just a few years later, the destruction of the temple in Jerusalem would take place. However, God also promised that He would protect His people and bring a faithful remnant back to Jerusalem, restoring them to their promised land. Our text today will remind us that even in judgment, God offers us hope.

discussion QUESTIONS

.01 What does it mean to have a new heart? Why was it good news that God would give the Israelites new hearts?

.02 When you feel far from God, how can you trust in His promises and continue to pray and worship Him? How can this give you comfort?

PRAY: Ask God to remind you of His promises when He feels far away or when hope seems far off. Thank Him that He is always ready to listen to our prayers.

**CENTRAL truth**

Even in judgment, God offers us hope.

LEADER challenge

Challenge your student to use the Daily Devotions provided in their *Daily Discipleship Guide* to study God's Word this week. These are the passages covered in this week's devotions.

DAY 1 EZEKIEL 11:1-4

DAY 2 EZEKIEL 11:5-13

DAY 3 EZEKIEL 11:14-17

DAY 4 EZEKIEL 11:18-21

DAY 5 PSALM 51:7-12

WINTER
2021-22

X Explore
the Bible