

# **HOPE GROUP NEXT STEPS**

Congratulations, you have successfully run a Hope Group for 8 weeks. But now what?

Here are a list of follow up scriptures for those who wish to continue their group for a bit longer.

Feel free to adjust or modify the order of these stories, or pick and choose to suit your needs.

## 15 MORE STORIES OF HOPE

- The rich fool (Luke 12: 13-21)
- The labourers in the vineyard (Matthew 20:1-16)
- A woman caught in sin (John 8: 1-11)
- The hidden treasure (Matthew 13: 44-46)
- The great banquet (Luke 14: 16-24)
- Jesus feeds the 5000 (Luke 9: 10-18)
- Lost and found (Luke 15: 1-10)
- Healing on the sabbath (John 5: 1-18)
- The story of Zacchaeus (Luke 19: 1-10)
- Investing your talents (Matthew 25: 14-30)
- A servant messiah (John 13: 3-17)
- Garden and betrayal (Luke 22: 39-53)
- Two criminals and a guard (Luke 23: 32-47)
- The walk to Emmaus (Luke 24: 13-35)
- The great commission (Matthew 28: 18-20)

## SPIRITUAL TEMPERATURE CHECK-IN

To build momentum, it is important to increase the spiritual temperature of your group over time.

Here are some ideas for how you might go about doing this in a sensitive and relational way:

### 1. Pray:

- Prayer is the foundation for all that we do. Keep praying for your friends each day.
- As trust and faith build, personalise your prayers by addressing the specific needs of people in your group. Teach others how to pray for themselves and invite them to pray for you.



#### 2. Ask Good Questions:

- Jesus asked spiritual questions to create spiritual conversations. Here are some great questions to ask your group when appropriate:
  - "Can I pray with you about this?" (a chance to personalise and deepen your prayers)
  - "If God could do a miracle in your life, what would that be?" (pray for these things)
  - "Has anyone ever shared the gospel with you?" (share a gospel presentation)
  - "Can I draw you a picture and explain to you the gospel?" (share 3-circles presentation)

# 3. Gospel Presentation:

- As people become curious about who Jesus is, invite them to hear a gospel presentation and ask for a response.
- We recommend using the 3-circles presentation as a great way to explain the gospel with clarity. We can to train you to give this presentation yourself, or alternatively, use <u>this video</u>.

# 4. Invite into a Church Community:

- A Hope Group is an entry point into the Christian life, with the long-term goal being discipleship in a church community (leading to ever-lasting hope!)
- Some Hope Groups continue for a long time, while others end naturally when the time is right.
- As your friends begin to put their trust in Jesus, you will want to invite them to connect with an appropriate Christian community, to help them grow as disciples.
- This may look different for different people, yet ideas include:
  - Alpha course (or other gospel discovery course) as available through your local church.
  - Small group or bible study, to connect with a broader group from your faith-community.
  - Start or join a house church or missional community, connected with a congregation or denomination, if this is what you sense God is calling you to do.
  - Visit and serve in a Sunday church service when ready to connect in this way.

### 5. Contact Us:

- Feel free to email us if you need help in discerning your next steps: info@togethernetwork.com.au
- We can provide support, advice and if appropriate, online coaching, to help you transition your people from a Hope Group towards engagement in a church / discipleship community.