

# CONNECT GROUP LEADER OVERVIEW

Welcome Leaders!

Thank you for leading your connect group through our 4-week Bible resource focused on hope and prayer. Your role is vital in guiding your group to grow in their faith, prayer life, and understanding of God's promises. Below are instructions and tips to help you effectively facilitate each session and support your group members.

Weekly Breakdown:

Week 1: Hope in God's Promises

Week 2: Prayer and Faith

Week 3: Hope in Times of Trouble

Week 4: Persistent Prayer and Hope

Thank you for your commitment to leading your connect group. We pray that this resource will be a blessing to you and your group, deepening your collective faith and prayer life. If you have any questions or need additional support, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Blessings,

The 96five Team

## A FEW TIPS:

- If your group meets once a fortnight, you can simply use resource 1 and 2, or consider spreading it out over eight weeks.
- Encourage your group to follow along with our daily YouVersion plan during the month of September VIA the QR code or find the link to the plan on our website.
- There is a podcast recommendation with every resource. Each week, (maybe mid-week) send the podcast link to your chat so that your group can have a bit more 'Hope & Prayer' in their week.

**96FIVE ON  
YOUVERSION**



**96FIVE PODCASTS**



# 1 HOPE IN GOD'S PROMISES

## JEREMIAH 29:11-13

**11** “For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. **12** Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. **13** You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.”

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What do God’s promises in this passage mean to you personally?
- How do you find hope in difficult times?
- How can we seek God with all our hearts, as mentioned in verse 13?
- Share a time when you experienced God's faithfulness in fulfilling a promise.
- How can we encourage each other to hold onto hope in our daily lives?
- What are some specific promises of God that you cling to?

### WEEKLY ACTIONS

Try to incorporate prayer over a different one of God’s promises each day. (If members need, you can provide the list – see final page of this document)

Prayer Partner: Pair up with someone in the group then find a time to call at some time throughout the week and pray together for each other's specific needs.

### RESOURCES FOR THIS WEEK



Join our daily plan on  
YouVersion



The Secret Place Podcast  
Never Forsaken

#### Extra Bible readings:

- 2 Corinthians 12:9-10
- Matthew 11:28-29
- Isaiah 61:1
- Romans 8:28

# 2 PRAYER & FAITH

## JAMES 5:13-20

**13** “Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise. **14** Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. **15** And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven. **16** Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

**17** Elijah was a human being, even as we are. He prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the land for three and a half years. **18** Again he prayed, and the heavens gave rain, and the earth produced its crops.

**19** My brothers and sisters, if one of you should wander from the truth and someone should bring that person back, **20** remember this: Whoever turns a sinner from the error of their way will save them from death and cover over a multitude of sins.”

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- How does prayer relate to faith according to this passage?
- Why is it important to pray for one another?
- How have you seen prayer bring about healing or change in your life or others' lives?
- What does it mean to pray in faith, as mentioned in verse 15?
- How can we cultivate a habit of prayer in our daily lives?
- In what ways can our group support each other in prayer?

### WEEKLY ACTIONS

Daily Prayer: Commit to praying daily for a specific person or situation.

### RESOURCES FOR THIS WEEK



Join our daily plan on  
YouVersion



*The Deep End with Dan Sweetman*  
Jessie-Rose Rayner - Peace Beyond Understanding

#### Extra Bible readings

- James 1:2-3
- Exodus 14:14
- Psalm 91:3
- Isaiah 54:17

# 3 HOPE IN TIMES OF TROUBLE

## PSALM 46 1-3 & 10-11

- 1 “God is our refuge and strength,  
an ever-present help in trouble.
  - 2 Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way  
and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea,
  - 3 though its waters roar and foam  
and the mountains quake with their surging....
- 
- 10 He says, “Be still, and know that I am God;  
I will be exalted among the nations,  
I will be exalted in the earth.”
  - 11 The Lord Almighty is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our fortress.”

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- How does this passage describe God’s presence in times of trouble?
- What does it mean to "be still and know that I am God" (verse 10)?
- How can we find hope and peace amidst chaos and challenges?
- Share a personal experience of finding hope in God during a difficult time.
- How can we remind ourselves of God's sovereignty and strength daily?
- In what practical ways can we support each other when facing troubles?

### WEEKLY ACTIONS

Find a similar passage: Do some reading in the New Testament and find a passage that shares the same sentiments as Psalm 46.

### RESOURCES FOR THIS WEEK



Join our daily plan on  
YouVersion



*The Secret Place Podcast* -The  
Bread of Heaven

#### Extra Bible readings

- Isaiah 40:31
- Psalm 37:23-24
- John 16:23
- Deuteronomy 31:8

# 4 PERSISTENT HOPE & PRAYER

## LUKE 18:1-8

**1** “Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up. **2** He said: “In a certain town there was a judge who neither feared God nor cared what people thought. **3** And there was a widow in that town who kept coming to him with the plea, ‘Grant me justice against my adversary.’

**4** “For some time he refused. But finally he said to himself, ‘Even though I don’t fear God or care what people think, **5** yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will see that she gets justice, so that she won’t eventually come and attack me!’”

**6** And the Lord said, “Listen to what the unjust judge says. **7** And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? **8** I tell you, he will see that they get justice, and quickly. However, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?”

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What does this parable teach us about persistence in prayer?
- How does persistent prayer build our hope and faith?
- Have you ever felt like giving up on a prayer request? What kept you going?
- How can we balance persistence with trust in God's timing?
- What are some practical ways to stay persistent in prayer?
- How can we encourage each other to maintain hope through persistent prayer?

### WEEKLY ACTIONS

Prayer Journal: Start a prayer journal to record your persistent prayers and any answers or insights you receive.

### RESOURCES FOR THIS WEEK



Join our daily plan on  
YouVersion



**So Many Answers**  
with Sandy Oswald -  
What is the Meaning of Life?

#### Extra Bible readings

- Isaiah 26:3
- Philippians 4:6-9
- Jeremiah 29:11
- 1 Peter 2:24

# GOD'S PROMISES TO HIS PEOPLE

## God's Presence

"The LORD himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged." Deuteronomy 31:8

## God's Strength

"But those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint." Isaiah 40:31

## God's Guidance

"I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you." Psalm 32:8

## God's Peace

"And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:7

## God's Provision

"And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:19

## God's Faithfulness

"Know therefore that the LORD your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commandments." Deuteronomy 7:9

## God's Forgiveness

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:9

## God's Eternal Life

"And this is what he promised us—eternal life." 1 John 2:25

## God's Unfailing Love

"Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever." Psalm 107:1

## God's Wisdom

"If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you." James 1:5

## God's Healing

"He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds." Psalm 147:3

## God's Protection

"The LORD will keep you from all harm—he will watch over your life; the LORD will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore." Psalm 121:7-8

## God's Redemption

"In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace." Ephesians 1:7

## God's Help

"So we can confidently say, 'The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?'" Hebrews 13:6 (ESV)

## God's Victory

"But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." 1 Corinthians 15:57

## God's Rest

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." Matthew 11:28

## God's Justice

"For the LORD is a God of justice. Blessed are all who wait for him!" Isaiah 30:18b

## God's Salvation

"For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ." 1 Thessalonians 5:9

## God's Refuge

"The LORD is a refuge for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble." Psalm 9:9

## God's Generosity

"Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you." Luke 6:38