



A Classic Christmas Pt. 1 *Developing Hope*

LifeGroup Discussion Guide
for the week of 12/2/2017

CONNECTION

- [1] With the announcement from the angel Gabriel to Zachariah that he was going to have a son, God broke a 400 year silence that led not just to the birth of John, but the most specular miracle since creation—the birth of Jesus! How do you handle those seeming “silent times” from God when you are waiting for Him to answer your prayers?

OBSERVATION AND INTERPRETATION

- [2]. What is the difference between Biblically based hope and how the word “hope” is used in every day conversations?

- [3] Do you agree or disagree with this statement: “You can’t have hope for another and another can’t have hope for you. Hope is something you have to personally connect with”. Why or why not?



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APPLICATION

- [5] What are some characteristics or attitudes of hope filled people during times of crisis, challenge, and disappointment? Does this mean denying problems exist? Please explain.

- [6] Both Mary and Zachariah received surprising news from an angel. What can we learn from the differences in their responses?

- [7] Hope comes down to believing God is who He says He is and that His word is always true. How can believing this help us embrace hope?

- [8] Hope grows when, like Mary, we receive the word of God by faith Romans 10:17 (NKJV). What does Romans 8:24 (NKJV) tell us to do with what we are hoping for? What are some things you can do to help you with this challenge?

REFLECTION

- [9] Proverbs 13:12 (NKJV) teaches hope deferred makes the heart sick. What is one thing you learned from this weekends message that you can do this week to build and grow hope in your life this Christmas season?

For a “hope booster” read Isaiah 40:31, Psalm 25:3, Lamentations 3:25, Romans 5:5 & Hebrews 11:1.



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