



BEREAN  
SMALL GROUPS

FOR THE GOSPEL  
ROMANS 1:16

## Road to Hope

### Message and Methods

#### 1 Peter 3:13-17

Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil.

#### Proof Positive:

The word of God is not the evidence of our conversion and relationship with God

#### BUT:

Our conversion and relationship with God is the evidence of the word of God

#### Road to Hope:

"When confronted with suffering that won't go away or even a minor problem, we instinctively focus on what is missing, such as the lost coats and the betrayal in Joseph's story, not on the master's hand. Often when you think everything has gone wrong, it's just that you're in the middle of a story. If you watch the stories God is weaving in your life, you, like Joseph, will begin to see the patterns. You'll become a poet, sensitive to your father's voice."

-Paul Miller  
"A Praying Life"

#### Hope Has a Name

- How has the constant word of God brought you hope when hope was hard to find?
- Why does hope seem to appear so far off when we need it most? Why is it hard, at times, to pray when when you most often need it?
- What does it mean in 1 Peter 3:15 when it says "... but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord..."?

#### The Reason for Hope

- "I was Blind, but now I see"
  - Why is a personal testimony so compelling?
  - Why is a personal testimony hard to refute?
  - What defines a personal conversion story?
- "Speak Up and Speak Out"
  - What does it mean when we say "Our lives are always on trial?"
  - Share a testimony of where the hope of the gospel personally rescued you. How can we use these stories to transition to the Romans' Road and share the gospel? - Romans 3:23, Romans 5:8, Romans 6:23, Romans 10:9-13
- Always Be Prepared
  - How does one know when one is ready to share the gospel? What does it take? What happens when I get confronted with a question I cannot answer?
  - What needs to be included in your story?
  - Whom in your life do you need to share the evidence of a life transformed?
  - How can you do it?
  - When will you do it?