

-12 WEEKS
of

UNITY

HEART | HOME | CHURCH | CITY

JUST CHOOSE HOPE

Scriptures taken from the Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide. www.zondervan.com The “NIV” and “New International Version” are trademarks registered in the United States Patent and Trademark Office by Biblica, Inc.™



www.justchoosehope.org

JUST CHOOSE HOPE

The God of hope is calling us to receive and give His hope daily. God is overflowing with hope and wants to fill us with His presence. Hope is a choice. Hope is available. Hope is relational. Hope is habitual. The hope of Jesus is infinite and indestructible.

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. (Romans 15:13)

This hope-filled prayer and vision is that we learn to abide with Jesus where we live, work, learn, and play. Reject the narrative of hopelessness. Hope is a confident and joyful trust in God.

Are you ready to spiritually soar like an eagle?

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)



12 WEEKS OF UNITY

Just choose hope is a biblical initiative with three stages: ignite, unite, and take flight. We start with ignite and 28 days of hope. Receive hope gifts, make hope shifts, cultivate hope habits, and live with hope impact. God builds a solid foundation and a fire in our souls. Then we intentionally unite because we often drift into silos and strife. We want unity with a purpose. Embers alone can fade, but when we come together God creates a bonfire.

When we are filled with God's Spirit and Scripture, we take flight together. We want to become like Jesus and walk in His love and truth. God has called all of us to be His ministers and ambassadors. We are all in full-time ministry. We have allowed a small percentage of Jesus followers to do the heavy lifting. We want biblical Christianity, not cultural Christianity. We reject the patterns of this world, and we trust God's plans, priorities, and promises. We pray that all of the body of Christ will be united and faithful together. We want to learn how to bring out the best in each other and fully rely on God. We want more of God's presence, not dead religion. Jesus is our living hope.

We need a reset. When we are one degree off for a long time, it becomes obvious and our trajectory needs a mid-course realignment with God. We need to repent and experience God's restoration and refreshment. We have a tremendous opportunity to unite with purpose. God wants to strengthen our unity as He moves in our hearts. We need God's abundant hope in our homes, churches, cities, and nations. Unity glorifies God. Unity brings joy. Unity is our calling.

Jesus prayed for our unity:

I in them and You in me-so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that You sent me and have loved them even as You have loved me. (John 17:23)

12 ELEMENTS OF UNITY

Jesus calls us to be united. God renews relationships and restores what is broken when we follow Jesus with all of our hearts, minds, and souls. Jesus is our Good Shepherd. Let's love and live like Jesus. Unity is taught and caught. Every week we will focus on a different essential element of unity. We want to be doers of God's Word in all of our relationships, including the difficult situations.

There is one body and one Spirit, just as You were called to one hope when You were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. (Ephesians 4:4-6)

You will find twelve devotions here that are all focusing on unity, with one element for each week. Read the Bible, watch the video by scanning the QR code, and take time to reflect on the application questions. You can go through the content alone, or with family and friends. Pray for God to move your heart towards unity with the hope of Jesus.

Week 1

Holiness

Read Daniel 6:1-28
and scan QR code
for video.



justchoosehope.org

We imitate the holiness and unity of the Trinity.

1 Peter 1:16

God is holy. There is one God in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The trinity lives in perfect unity. Holiness is our foundation and leads to unity. We are made in God's image. When we live in unity, God is glorified. Drawing near to God and obeying God are the connecting points of unity. Real unity includes God's purpose and glory. Some people unite through sin. There are many attempts to unite that do not have any positive impact on God's kingdom. Without holiness, community deteriorates. In one sense, we are already a holy nation through Jesus because our sins are forgiven. The substitutionary atonement accomplished by Jesus makes us righteous in God's sight for eternity. At the same time, holiness is a choice. God tells us to be holy, meaning we are called to honor God with our daily decisions and lifestyle. Faithfulness to God leads to the deepest joy and love in relationships. Our commitment to God determines the depth of our unity.

Our commitment to God determines the depth of our unity.

Choose friends who want to honor God with all their heart. Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were taken to Babylon and held captive in exile. They refused to deny God or worship any false gods. They continued to pray and seek God together. They were persecuted for their faith, being thrown into a lion's den and a fiery furnace. God supernaturally protected them. People turned to God in a spiritually dark place.

Holiness brings hope to a corrupt and confused culture.

Some LEGO bricks have twenty attachment points and others just have four. All LEGO pieces have a base that is solid. Extroverts tend to make many friendships while introverts usually prefer fewer and deeper relationships. Holiness is the base as we unite. When you walk in the light, your family can have peace and friendships can be healthy. Sin and pride divide and destroy. You will never regret abiding with Jesus and being filled with the hope of God. Holiness is undervalued in our nation and in many churches. Do not miss the strong connection between holiness, unity, and hope.

Hope Point: Unity with God leads to an overflowing hope.

Additional Scripture Reading: John 17, Daniel 1 & 3, Psalm 29

How is your commitment to following Jesus?

How can you walk in the light in a country that is wandering from God?

How can you bring the hope of Jesus to an ungodly and isolating culture?

Additional Notes:

Prayer: Father God, You are holy. We bow down before You and worship with reverence and awe. Forgive us for the many ways we fall short of Your call on our lives. We return to You today with all our hearts. Thank You for Your grace. May we represent You well as Your ambassadors. We pray in Jesus' name, amen.

Week 2

Humility

Read 1 Samuel 7:3-17
and scan QR code for
video.



justchoosehope.org

The humility of Jesus moves our hearts.

Philippians 2:3-5

Jesus left heaven and came to earth to serve. Jesus is fully God and became fully human as well. Jesus was sinless and humbled Himself, being perfectly obedient. He died on the cross to pay the price for our sins. There will never be a greater demonstration of love and humility. Jesus became sin, and by His grace we receive a perfect pardon and everlasting life when we put our trust in Him. The suffering servant is alive, defeating death through His resurrection. The name of Jesus is the name above all names. Jesus is the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Jesus teaches us about humility and victory.

We have peace and unity with God forever because Jesus was faithful.

Be teachable and learn how to walk humbly with God. Listening to Jesus leads to humility. The Good Shepherd laid down His life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. Because Jesus loves us, we love one another. Because Jesus forgave us, we forgive one another. We have a new humility in the Lord, and a new basis for how we serve one another. May our attitudes be the same as Jesus.

In a me-first world, consider others first and consistently love your neighbor.

The kingdom of God is based on humility. Eli walked with God, but his sons were selfish and stubborn. Samuel, on the other hand, learned from Eli and began to listen closely to God. Samuel guided a nation to God because of his humble devotion. Pride leads to strife, division, grudges, loneliness, bitterness, excuses, finger-pointing, and looking down upon others. This is the exact opposite of Jesus. We need to stop rationalizing our behavior and start imitating our Lord. May it start in our hearts, then transform our homes, and build up our church family too. Many people say they want to unite, but there will be no unity without humility. Let us offer God far more than lip service. It is time for healing and restoration.

Hope Point: If you want meaningful and hope-filled relationships, be humble.

Additional Scripture Reading: Philippians 2, 1 Samuel 1-3, James 4

What does it look like to be teachable?

How much time do you want to spend each day listening to God?

How will you drop your pride to unite with others at home and church?

Additional Notes:

Prayer: Gracious God, You are so kind and wise. Jesus, thank You for being faithful and teaching us how to serve. We want to walk humbly with You and abide daily. We turn from our pride and trust You. Unless You build the house, we will labor in vain. We ask You to help us to persevere and not give up. Jesus You are the way, and we pray in Your name, amen.

Week 3

Authentegrity

Read Psalm 32
and scan QR code
for video.



justchoosehope.org

Without integrity, unity is superficial.

Proverbs 10:9

God is faithful. Jesus keeps all His promises. The Holy Spirit always communicates truth. The trinity exists in perfect community. There is no darkness, deception, or despair with God. God never lies. Following Jesus includes a commitment to both authenticity and integrity. When you keep your word, you are glorifying God. The meaning of the word integrity includes a sense of oneness. Reject living a double life with a divided heart. You won't be able to keep one foot on the boat and one foot on the dock.

Be the same person in all settings because character matters.

Authentegrity is a word I created to intentionally illustrate a point. The culture views authenticity as the end goal, but that is not God's perspective. Many people are real about their bitterness, sin, hatred, selfishness, and rage but they have no desire to change. There is more to life than transparency. Appropriate vulnerability is courageous, and authenticity is noble. Once we reveal truth about ourselves, the next step forward is to honor God. Zacchaeus was a selfish tax collector who took advantage of people. Jesus changed his heart from stingy to generous, from crooked to compassionate, and from me-centered to hope-filled. Like Zacchaeus, do more than just admit being self-consumed and dishonest. Repent and become generous and eager to serve. God loves us as we are, but He also loves us too much to let us stay this way. Authentegrity builds real community and is foundational for bringing the hope of God to our homes, churches, and cities.

When you choose integrity, you are choosing unity.

David and Jonathan developed a special relationship because they could trust each other. Saul, Jonathan's father, tried to kill David. God rescued David from multiple attacks, and David remained very close friends with Jonathan because their relationship was full of authenticity and integrity. Thank God for the people who stick with you in adversity. Wounds from a friend can be trusted. Nathan rebuked David after he slept with another man's wife. Honesty is necessary for unity, and a true brother will help you return to God. Unity that is saturated with integrity brings hope and joy.

Hope Point: Faithfulness to God is your highest calling and joy.

Additional Scripture Reading: 1 Samuel 18, 2 Samuel 12, Luke 19

When do you feel insecure and how is God changing that?

How can you be more authentic in all situations?

When has someone rebuked you, and was it very fruitful?

Additional Notes:

Prayer: Almighty God, You are love, light, and a consuming fire. Jesus, You are the light of the world. We want to walk in the light. We reject the darkness. You are our living hope Jesus. May we shine for Your glory in this generation. May we be united so the world will know You. We are very grateful and ask all of this in Your name, Lord. Amen.

Week 4

Forgiveness

*Read Genesis 37
and scan QR code
for video.*



justchoosehope.org

*The forgiveness of Jesus changes all of our relationships.
Ephesians 4:31-32*

The forgiveness we receive through Jesus is eternal and complete. We are united with God in His family forever. Let that sink in deeply. God empowers you to forgive others. We are like Jesus when we forgive. It is always good to forgive. Forgiveness brings hope in a world full of grudges and resentment. Forgiveness is counter-cultural. Without God's help, we cannot forgive. Forgiveness opens the door for God's presence.

Forgiveness is a daily decision of the will, but healing takes time.

Forgiveness does not mean that what the other person did is acceptable. Forgiveness does not mean that you need to be friends or necessarily spend time together. Some people are not safe, and distance is wise. Forgiveness does not mean you forget. Forgiveness does not mean you need to stop being discerning. Forgiveness does not mean to be naive or ignore facts. When someone commits a crime, they might still have legal consequences even if they are forgiven. Forgiveness has a cost that Jesus paid. Sin is costly. Vengeance belongs to the Lord, and God will have the final say.

Forgive and trust God with the results.

Joseph was mistreated by his brothers and sold into slavery. God was with him in Egypt as he endured pain and false accusations. Because Joseph entrusted himself to the Lord, God raised him up. God provided for Joseph and many lives were saved through his generosity. His brothers were malevolent, but God turned it around for good. If you have sinned, apologize and ask for forgiveness. If someone has sinned against you, do not let the sun go down on your anger and do not carry the poison of bitterness. Start with your family and make things right. Forgiveness is often both the hardest and best step forward. God wants to give you peace, freedom, and restoration.

Hope Point: If you are forgiven by God, then you must fully forgive others.

Additional Scripture Reading: Genesis 50, Matthew 18, Ephesians 4

What is the reason you forgive others and the basis for how you respond to people during the day?

How is forgiveness always a wise and beneficial decision?

Who do you need to fully forgive and let go of all bitterness and resentment?

Additional Notes:

Prayer: Thank You God for Your grace and mercy. Jesus, thank You for dying for our sins. We are eternally grateful for Your pardon. Because we have freely received, we freely give. We let go of all grudges and bitterness. We pray for those who mistreat us. Guide us we pray God, and may we love people like You do. We ask this for Your glory Jesus. Amen.

Week 5

Trust

*Read 2 Timothy 1
and scan QR code
for video.*



justchoosehope.org

Because God is trustworthy, we can be loyal.

Ruth 1:16-17

God is trustworthy. Trusting Jesus is how to begin a relationship with God. It is through receiving, not achieving. In life, we are constantly trying to figure out who we can trust. Jesus trusts the Father and the Spirit. There is perfect love and trust within the trinity. God's loyal love is seen in many relationships in the Bible. Ruth and Naomi, her mother-in-law, both have husbands who tragically died. As widows, they would be very vulnerable in a culture that was usually not very compassionate and protective. Ruth chose hope and decided to commit to being there for Naomi for all her days. Because Ruth trusted God, she trusted the radical step of taking care of Naomi with consistency and generosity.

The body of Christ includes people of all generations, nations, and personalities.

If we do not trust each other, we cannot unite well. We want more than just to be members at the same church or worship in the same room. We desire friendships with a shared purpose and passion. Trust is the core of every relationship. Be someone who others can depend on because you walk closely with God. Trust can take years to build, but it can be lost in a minute.

Guard the unity God gives us.

The word fellowship is a shared participation. Unity is active, not passive. Unity is based on Scripture and trusting God's word. Never compromise Scripture for a false unity that rebels against God. When we abide with Jesus, our Head, then every part of the body will support each other with respect and kindness. There is mutual edification. With trust and hope, we bring out the best in each other. Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and He will give you wisdom and insights in your relationships. To trust is a relationship risk. Unity requires courage and prayer.

Hope Point: Your unity will be as deep as your trust.

Additional Scripture Reading: Ruth 1-4, Psalm 25, Ephesians 5

Who has been there for you in your most difficult days?

How are you building trust with people who do not follow Jesus?

What is your desire and plan to increase trust and unity in your family relationships?

Additional Notes:

Prayer: Father God, thank You for our friends, family, and church. Thank You for discernment You give in our conversations and relationships. Thank You, Holy Spirit for Your presence and love that fills our hearts. We reject fear and worry today. Trusting You more, Jesus, is our prayer. We align with Your word and promises. We pray for a deeper unity today in Jesus' name, amen.

Week 6

Collaboration

*Read Haggai 2:1-9
and scan QR code for
video.*



justchoosehope.org

God's plan and purpose are saturated with collaboration.

Nehemiah 4:14

The trinity works together in perfect harmony to accomplish the best purposes and plans. We are inspired by this collaboration. Independence is not ideal. The Holy Spirit convicts us to come together as one body. Jesus prays that we will have a complete unity which includes being a team for His glory. Collaboration incorporates clear communication, common goals, and building community. Collaboration happens when we realize we need God and each other. This is our divine design. Reject isolation. Christianity is not a solo endeavor or a spectator sport. Participation is God's vision. A healthy body values every part as significant and indispensable.

God is glorified when we learn to work together.

We need to repent and follow God's direction. We have churches where a very small percentage of the people are doing the heavy lifting. Within churches we have silo departments that are not aligned. Within cities, there are churches that will not team up or care for other churches. Some churches care about themselves but not the overall work of God in a city. This is not to be negative or complaining at all. It is a wake-up call that we miss the mark and have blind spots. A watching world hears our message but sees our division. Unity is powerful and gains the attention of people who want to experience the hope of Jesus.

God raises up united teams to change the world.

Returning from exile, Ezra called people to return to God. Nehemiah mobilized families to build the wall around Jerusalem. Zerubbabel was a leader who rebuilt the temple. The restoration was holistic and fruitful because of the collaboration. Jesus chose the twelve and empowered the seventy-two. God created each of us to be different in marvelous ways. There is no one like you. You are an original and a masterpiece. There are situations when you will serve alone. Community and collaboration, though, are how we celebrate and leverage our unique individual qualities for God's glory. God raises up united teams to change the world. Lock arms with people who want to see God's kingdom expand and lives transformed. God will bring people to you who have complimentary gifts and a shared vision. Hope is magnified and accelerated through intentional, sacrificial, and joyful collaboration.

Hope Point: God guides you to people who have a shared purpose and passion.

Additional Scripture Reading: Nehemiah 1-4, Matthew 10, 1 Corinthians 12

Who do you know that has the same vision and passion as you?

Who should you partner with more often?

How is collaboration needed to lead your city to Jesus?

Additional Notes:

Prayer: Heavenly Father, thank You for leading us to unite with our brothers and sisters. Forgive us for all the times we have acted independently and ignored the promptings of the Holy Spirit. Forgive us for being stubborn and selfish. We become more focused on our agendas instead of Your kingdom. May this be a new season. We want to live and serve as Your family locally and globally. May it be so in Jesus' mighty name, amen.

Week 7

Joy

*Read Psalm 67
and scan QR code
for video.*



justchoosehope.org

God has designed us to enjoy our relationships.

Psalm 133:1

There is joy in God's presence. The joy of the Lord is our strength. Joy is the fruit when we are filled with the Holy Spirit. Unity brings blessings and joy. God has joy when we abide with Him. He wants to be close to us. Life is about relationships. Elisha and the Shunammite family connect because they offer him meals and a place to stay. Hospitality and opening up our homes are a wonderful demonstration of God's love and hope. There is a deep joy when we are known and loved. We are called to glorify God and enjoy Him forever. The Creator is greater than creation. The Blessor is greater than the blessings. We spend much time and effort chasing what cannot truly satisfy.

The angels rejoice when sinners repent and come home.

Connect with your family. Go out of your way to care for them. Rejoice with those who rejoice. Celebrate other people and their success. Worship and thank God in church every weekend. Be consistent. Receive God's grace, encouragement, and wisdom. Be kind to your co-workers. Slow down and savor time with your children. If you are a grandparent, be playful and encouraging. Be intentional to love your neighbors. Put a smile on other people's faces during the day. Bring a timely word to someone who is discouraged.

God's joy multiplies as you bring hope to people locally and globally.

Joy is not the absence of suffering. Joy is a deep well of living water from Jesus that doesn't run dry. We can act tough and self-sufficient, but that is a shallow game at best and often very empty and deceptive. People see Jesus in our pure joy. It is a contradictory message to invite people to follow the Lord but then paint a picture of complaining with a glaring lack of gratitude. Our attitude matters. People might read the Bible, but they will always read you. I am not saying fake it. I am saying unite with God and build great relationships and you will carry more joy than you realize. We don't focus on joy, but we intentionally draw near to God. Jesus is our source of joy. Linger in those special times with God and the people God has placed in your life.

Hope Point: Joy is both the inward and outward fruit of abiding with Jesus.

Additional Scripture Reading: 2 Kings 4, Psalm 100, John 4

What does hospitality look like in your home?

When do you experience the joy of the Lord in your relationships?

How are purpose and gratitude connected with joy?

Additional Notes:

Prayer: Father, You are good and Your love endures forever. Jesus thank You for living water that satisfies our souls. God, You give us a new song that the world cannot silence. Your joy strengthens and unites us. May we enjoy our families and church family too. May we bring Your joy to a world that is weary and discouraged. May Your joy fill our streets and communities. Thank You, Holy Spirit, for Your consistent joy in all situations. We gratefully worship You, Jesus, and in Your name we pray. Amen.

Week 8

Communication

Read Esther 8
and scan QR
code for video.



justchoosehope.org

Courageous conversations glorify God.

Ephesians 4:15-16

God communicates with us every day through Scripture and the Holy Spirit. When you love someone, you value their voice and listen closely. Jesus is always full of love and truth. We need God's voice to strengthen, lead, reassure, comfort, and convict us. Sheep wander, but the Good Shepherd protects and provides. In a noisy culture, you need to be intentional to take time to hear and reflect on what God is saying to you. Cultivate hope habits. The Word of God is completely reliable and eternal. You can read, listen, memorize, meditate, and share the Bible with other people every day. God's Word nourishes your soul. The enemy wants us to be confused, but Scripture brings infinite hope. We can share God's promises with compassion and confidence. Communicate with love and truth. Communicate with honesty and humility. Communicate with conviction and clarity. Timidity is not from God. Reject being silent about who God is and what God has done in your life.

Rely on the Holy Spirit, and your words will shine a bright light in a dark world.

Mordecai adopted Esther, his cousin. They walked with God together as family. There is nothing more important. They listened to God during the most intense trials. When there was a decree in the land to annihilate all the Jewish people, they fasted. They found creative ways to reach each other when they were separated as Esther became queen. Their positive communication became the bond God used to rescue the Israelites. How you communicate in moments of high stress affects the trajectory of the outcome.

Relationships are tested, but if you choose hope and unity God is honored.

The spiritual temperature in your home is linked to having conversations about God. The Bible says to be intentional with your children, as parents are the primary people to support and train kids to walk with God. Share your story and faith with family members who do not know the Lord. Within your church, reject gossip and slander. Build people up with your words. Talk about people with kindness even when they are not in the room. Compliment your co-workers sincerely and frequently. Give God the glory for success. Your words are powerful and can be very inspirational.

Hope Point: Communicate clearly and consistently with both truth and love.

Additional Scripture Reading: Esther 2-4, Proverbs 18, Colossians 4

What positive relationship risks and deeper conversations is God leading you to have?

How can you encourage more people in your church family?

How are you doing with listening well daily to people?

Additional Notes:

Prayer: God, thank You for the Bible and how You communicate with us. Thank You, Holy Spirit, for guiding us with insights and revelation. Jesus, thank You for always being full of love and truth. May we listen closely to Your voice as our Good Shepherd. Help us to connect at home and at church with kind, patient, and encouraging words. Help us with courageous conversations so our unity will be strengthened. We ask all these requests in Jesus' holy name, amen.

Week 9

Generosity

Read Genesis 15:1-7
and scan QR code for
video.



justchoosehope.org

The grace of Jesus sets us free from selfishness.

2 Corinthians 9:6-8

Father God is generous and abounding with grace. Jesus gave up His life so that we can live. The Holy Spirit dwells inside of everyone who follows Jesus. The Bible is saturated with the promises of God. God's record of faithfulness to every generation is perfect. Because God has provided for us, we want to thank God through our generosity. We are stewards but not owners of our time, talent, and treasure. We are managing what truly belongs to God. This fact gives us freedom from the idolatry of material possessions and a passion to glorify God. We are held accountable and want to make wise decisions. Without generosity, we will not be faithful or united. When we are filled with God's Spirit and Scripture, generosity will overflow from our hearts, into our home, church, and city. Generosity is the process of rejecting selfishness and discovering true joy. Ultimately, we are motivated by God's great love and hope that fuels us to make a difference in the world.

Surrender is a necessity on the path of generosity.

Freely we have received, so freely give. If we hold our blessings too tightly, we squeeze them with selfishness. If we hold our blessings too loosely, they fall out of our hands in the wrong places. Instead, we entrust it all to God and are proactive with obedience which inspires. Abraham offered His son Isaac to God. This dedication painted a picture of how Father God sent His Son to die on the cross. Abraham's legacy is that he learned to trust God in every area of his life. His faith continues to strengthen future generations.

Devotion to God multiplies hope and leaves a legacy of generosity.

Hospitality is an expression of hope and starts in your heart before you open your home. Let the word of God dwell in you richly so that God's thoughts become your thoughts. Guard time in your schedule to invest time in your family relationships. Our calendars and our bank accounts reveal who and what we worship and treasure. Your money has a great purpose and potential. Do not fall in love with it or base your security on it. Your abilities are from God, so identify and use them in many settings. Joyfully receive and give the hope of Jesus daily.

Hope Point: Total surrender to God demonstrates His good plan and purpose.

Additional Scripture Reading: Genesis 13 & 22, Acts 2, 2 Corinthians 9

What do you need to give to the Lord in order to become more generous?

Are there people or possessions that can be an idol in your life and how can you be set free from that trap?

How can you live with a radical generosity like Jesus?

Additional Notes:

Prayer: Gracious God, we learn generosity from You. Jesus thank You for demonstrating Your love and giving us an infinite and indestructible hope. Forgive us Lord for the times we are stingy and miss opportunities to make a difference in someone's life. May we have eyes to see, ears to hear, and a heart ready to respond. Thanks for giving all of us a full-time ministry to build up Your kingdom. We pray this in Your glorious name, Jesus, amen.

Week 10

Perspective

Read Joshua 24:13-28
and scan QR code for
video.



justchoosehope.org

The Bible refreshes and renews us with the mind of Christ.

Isaiah 55:8-9

The Bible reveals God's thoughts and ways. God is omniscient, omnipotent, and omnipresent. God is love. God is light. God is a consuming fire. There is consistency within the trinity. When we abide with Jesus, we have the mind of Christ. We need to drop our pride so that we can love and live like the Lord. The perspective of God shapes our priorities, purpose, and passion. The patterns of the world steal, kill, and destroy. Jesus sets us free with truth because He is the truth. God renews our minds with Scripture.

God's perspective includes an infinite and indestructible hope.

If you believe God's promises and profound truth, that we will be with Jesus in victory for all of eternity, then this reality will radically shift your perspective. The hope of God is a certain hope. The time is short to invite and lead others to Jesus. We have a sense of urgency. We have a passion to unite and grow in our relationships as every moment is significant. We reject fear, worry, despair, discouragement, and selfishness. God delivered the Israelites from slavery in Egypt. They traveled through the wilderness on the way to the Promised Land. A generation refused to trust God and they died in the wilderness. Only Caleb and Joshua believed God's report and perspective about the Promise Land. Let God's promises guide your present reality and future direction. In every generation, God has a remnant of people who are courageous and faithful. Do not let the darkness smother your light. Follow Jesus with all your heart and mind.

Value unity at home, church, and in your city.

Do not just go to church, be the church. The world is often influencing the church more than the church is influencing the world. Our prayer is that God's will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Let us be doers of God's Word. What we read in the Bible becomes our plan together. We reject unnecessary division and strife. God has one family, one body, and one hope. Scripture is clear that we are all called to full-time ministry as God's ambassadors and priests. This is a glorious calling. We rely on God to encourage and empower people. The hope of God is available and relational, and will prevail.

Hope Point: Rely on God and receive His vision and provision.

Additional Scripture Reading: Numbers 13, Joshua 3, 2 Corinthians 4

How is following Jesus counter-cultural?

How does an eternal perspective help you today with priorities?

How does God view you?

Additional Notes:

Prayer: Heavenly Father, Your thoughts and ways are higher than ours. We want to prioritize relationships and unity. May we strengthen relationships with people of all nations and generations. May our hearts break for what breaks Your heart. We know people are eternal and You care so deeply about souls too. We ask for boldness and wisdom to lead our families, neighbors, and co-workers to You. Give us an undivided heart and please teach us the life that is truly life. Jesus, You are the truth, and we honor You. In Your name we pray, amen.

Week 11

Serving

Read Romans 12:1-16
and scan QR code for
video.



justchoosehope.org

Unity accelerates when we all serve each other.

1 Peter 4:10-11

Jesus is far more than just a teacher. His words and actions are consistent. Because Jesus serves us, we are committed to serve one another. In the world, leadership can be selfish, but we want to have a servant's heart. God calls us to be like Christ. Jesus is both bold and humble. In the body of Christ, we need the timid to be bold, and the bold to be humble. This happens when we are filled with the Holy Spirit. God calls us to be ministers. God calls us to serve people where we live, work, learn, and play. God calls us to lead people to Him and lead people to His hope. Jesus washed feet. Jesus valued children. Jesus loved people from all nations. Jesus broke the cultural norms and patterns. Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life.

Our spiritual DNA includes serving.

Unity breaks down when we decide not to serve. We are made to serve, but many people think the good life means not having to serve. Serving is an honor and a privilege. Yes, serving involves sacrifice. Most people say they want to serve until they are treated like a servant. When you know that you are working unto the Lord, it is a game changer. You will glorify Jesus when you serve. You will strengthen relationships when you serve. You will build up your church and God's kingdom when you serve. Your life will have meaning and be filled with hope when you serve. Serving is living. You never graduate from this wonderful calling until you see Jesus face to face. Find someone you can serve and mentor. Elijah invested his life into Elisha who served God in his generation.

Have a vision beyond yourself.

Your attitude when you serve is significant. Do not resent people or be above people or look down on them. Serve with the joy of the Lord. Serve when no one is looking or there is no immediate reward. Know that God sees all your actions and will be rewarded. Like Jesus, serve in ways that are not comfortable, because serving is far more than playing it safe. Serving is not a substitute for seeking God. Churches that change their community have a commitment to serve their community. Go to where people are, listen well, and take relationship risks. The Holy Spirit will lead you out of a self-centered approach and lifestyle so you can be all God designed you to be.

Hope Point: Become like Jesus and lead with a servant's heart.

Additional Scripture Reading: 2 Kings 2, John 13, Colossians 3

Who are you mentoring in their faith?

How do you serve people who do not know Jesus yet?

How are you serving your church family with all your heart?

Additional Notes:

Prayer: Father, we rely on You. Thank You for being our rock. Jesus thank You that You came to serve and not to be served. Thank You for the gifts You give us. Holy Spirit, we praise You and thank You for encouraging and empowering us. May we use our talents to serve in our home, church, and city. There are no limits to what You can do. We believe in You and our hope and confidence is in You. Jesus, please transform our communities and heal our land we pray. We want to be part of the solution. Thank You for Your great purpose and calling on our lives. We glorify You together and pray in Your name Lord, amen.

Week 12

Read 1 Peter 2:4-12 and
scan QR code for video.



justchoosehope.org

Hope Overflowing

Abiding with Jesus includes His infinite hope.

Romans 15:13

Father God loves Jesus and declares His pleasure as Jesus is baptized. The Holy Spirit is revealing the greatness of Jesus. For the last twelve weeks, we have been celebrating the harmony and unity within the trinity. We have also been growing in our unity at home, in the church, and in the community. God fills us with His Spirit, word, and hope. The God of hope is generous, and we overflow when we abide. God is not running out of hope. The key for us is to find the ancient wells and drink deeply of the living water which truly satisfies. Drop the broken cisterns, make the hope shifts, and return to the source of all hope.

We need hope in our relationships.

We become discouraged, hurt, doubting, and disappointed, and often choose isolation and independence when God offers more. People are going to mistreat us and let us down. We are all flawed. Even with the right intentions, we hurt the people we love. The answer to our broken relationships and families is Jesus. Jesus restores, heals, and renews. We want to make Jesus the Lord of our lives and make room for God in our daily lives. Our prayer is that He will flood our hearts with His hope. Churches should be the most hope-filled places in our communities. We need to repent, abide with Jesus, and answer the call for all of us to be ministers who receive and give the hope of God.

Unity is the result of many selfless and wise decisions

Give up what is small to gain what is greater. We need to trust God and lean not on our own understanding. Abraham and Sarah were blessed to be a blessing. They received God's compelling vision and hope. They saw beyond what was comfortable. Their family traveled together as they were holding on to God's promises and seeking His presence. God is giving His people a fresh vision of hope today that is local and global. We walk in unity because we walk with Jesus. Unity glorifies God. It is often more difficult than being alone, but it is worth it. Hope is relational and rugged. May the hope of Jesus be the story of our relationships.

Hope Point: God's local and global hope is amplified through compassionate people.

Additional Scripture Reading: Isaiah 40, Psalm 27, Romans 15

How has your hope increased in the last twelve weeks?

How can you share the hope that God gives you with your family and neighbors?

How can followers of Jesus lead their cities to Jesus?

Additional Notes:

Prayer: Eternal God, You never run out of hope. We abide with You, Jesus, and receive in abundance. We put our hope in You, God, and stand on Your word which is truth. We want to soar like eagles spiritually together. May Your people be the priests and ministers You have called all of us to be. We want to have one hope and be faithful to spread the gospel locally and globally. Jesus, we unite together at home and church because You are leading us. We live and pray in Your unrivaled name, amen.

JUST CHOOSE HOPE

Just choose hope is learning to abide with Jesus. We receive and give His hope daily where we live, work, learn, and play. Hope is relational and available. May Jesus be glorified because His hope is infinite and indestructible.

There are three segments that are designed to encourage and empower you to just choose hope.

- 1) **Ignite:** 28 Days of hope that include hope gifts, hope shifts, hope habits, and hope impact.
- 2) **Unite:** 12 Weeks to strengthen relationships and unity in our hearts, homes, churches, and cities.
- 3) **Take Flight:** A journey in the book of Acts to spiritually soar as we are all in full-time ministry together.

We reject the narrative of hopelessness. We pray and desire to return to God with all our hearts, to be filled with the Holy Spirit, to live Biblically instead of being stuck in the patterns of the world, to experience real unity, and to grow in our faith together with an overflowing hope. We believe that the best is yet to come.



LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS

WEEK ONE: HOLINESS

Opening Questions:

- 1) How is unity both good and difficult?
- 2) What is holiness?
- 3) How are unity and holiness connected?

Text Questions:

- 1) Leviticus 11:44 How do you consecrate yourself?
- 2) Leviticus 20:26 Why does God call us to be holy?
- 3) Psalm 68:4-5 How does holiness include compassion and community?
- 4) Isaiah 6:1-8 How does this passage apply to us?
- 5) Philippians 2:14-16 What is God's plan for His people?
- 6) 1 Peter 2:9 What does it mean that we are already a holy nation?
- 7) Hebrews 12:14 How do we live this out together?

WEEK TWO: HUMILITY

Opening Questions:

- 1) What is humility?
- 2) How is humility both good and difficult?
- 3) When have you chosen humility instead of pride?

Text Questions:

- 1) Proverbs 11:2, 26:12 How do you reject arrogance?
- 2) 1 Peter 5:5-7 What does it look like to humble yourself?
- 3) Matthew 11:28-30 What does Jesus promise?
- 4) Luke 14:11 Why does God care so much about humility?
- 5) Proverbs 15:1 How can you consistently make this choice?
- 6) Philippians 2:3-11 How can we be like Jesus in our relationships?
- 7) 2 Chronicles 7:14 How can you encourage others to live like this?

WEEK THREE: AUTHENTEGRITY

Opening Questions:

- 1) How is authenticity both good and difficult?
- 2) Why is authenticity not our ultimate goal?
- 3) How are integrity and hope connected?

Text Questions:

- 1) Proverbs 11:3 How does duplicity destroy unity?
- 2) Proverbs 28:6 How do people sacrifice relationships to gain wealth?
- 3) 1 Peter 3:15-16 How are you responding to people in difficult moments?
- 4) 2 Corinthians 8:21 What is the reward of doing what is right?
- 5) Proverbs 4:25-27 How can you have integrity while on your phone?
- 6) Psalm 41:11-12 How can purity and loyalty increase hope?
- 7) Philippians 4:8 How are you intentional with your thoughts?

WEEK FOUR: FORGIVENESS

Opening Questions:

- 1) What is forgiveness?
- 2) What are some common misperceptions about forgiveness?
- 3) Why is forgiveness always a good decision?

Text Questions:

- 1) Matthew 18:21-22 What does Jesus teach about forgiveness?
- 2) Ephesians 4:29-32 What is the basis for why we forgive?
- 3) 1 John 1:8-9 How would you describe God's grace and restoration?
- 4) Colossians 3:13 Is forgiveness optional for a follower of Jesus?
- 5) Matthew 6:14-15 What is Jesus' teaching in these verses?
- 6) Ephesians 1:6-9 What is redemption?
- 7) Romans 12:19 How does this truth challenge you?

WEEK FIVE: TRUST

Opening Questions:

- 1) How are hope and trust connected?
- 2) Is it easier to gain or lose trust?
- 3) How do you know when to trust someone?

Text Questions:

- 1) Isaiah 26:3-4 How does trusting God improve our relationships?
- 2) Proverbs 3:5-6 Are there any areas of life where you are not trusting God?
- 3) Joshua 1:6-9 How does Scripture and meditation increase your faith?
- 4) Jeremiah 17:5-8 What do we learn here?
- 5) Psalm 1:1-6 How is character related to unity and hope?
- 6) Proverbs 13:20 Are your friends very wise?
- 7) Micah 6:8 Are we people whom God can trust?

WEEK SIX: COLLABORATION

Opening Questions:

- 1) What have been your positive experiences with collaboration?
- 2) Why do we desire independence or isolation?
- 3) How can the body of Christ work better together?

Text Questions:

- 1) Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 What are the benefits of uniting?
- 2) 1 Corinthians 1:10 When have you experienced this type of harmony?
- 3) Hebrews 10:24-25 How committed are you to collaboration?
- 4) Ephesians 4:16 What is God's calling for us?
- 5) Proverbs 11:14 Are you surrounded by honest and godly advisers and friends?
- 6) Romans 15:5-6 How can we have more unity in the body of Christ in each city?
- 7) Mark 6:7 Why does Jesus want every disciple on a team?

WEEK SEVEN: JOY

Opening Questions:

- 1) What brings you the most joy in life?
- 2) How is sin deceptive with pleasure and joy?
- 3) How are joy and unity connected?

Text Questions:

- 1) Nehemiah 8:10 How does the Lord provide joy?
- 2) Psalm 16:11 How do you seek God with others during the week?
- 3) Galatians 5:22-23 How does the Holy Spirit transform our relationships?
- 4) James 1:2-4 How do you suffer well with other believers?
- 5) Habakkuk 3:17-18 How is joy a choice?
- 6) Hebrews 12:1-2 How does the community of faith bring you joy?
- 7) 1 Peter 1:8-9 How does future joy affect us today?

WEEK EIGHT: COMMUNICATION

Opening Questions:

- 1) What are your communication strengths?
- 2) How do you want to grow in communication?
- 3) How are communication and hope connected?

Text Questions:

- 1) Ephesians 4:15 Why is it important to speak both truth and love?
- 2) Proverbs 18:21 How is the tongue so powerful?
- 3) James 1:19 How would you rate yourself as a listener?
- 4) Colossians 4:6 Does this describe you?
- 5) Colossians 3:8 How pure is your speech?
- 6) Hebrews 4:12 How has God's word changed the way you speak?
- 7) James 3:1-12 What verse stands out to you and why?

WEEK NINE: GENEROSITY

Opening Questions:

- 1) Who has been generous to you?
- 2) When have you seen generosity lead to hope and unity?
- 3) What helps you break free from being stingy?

Text Questions:

- 1) 1 John 3:17 How does this verse challenge you?
- 2) Hebrews 13:16 How is giving a sacrifice?
- 3) Luke 6:38 What does this verse teach us about trusting God?
- 4) 2 Corinthians 9:8-11 How can we develop this type of culture together?
- 5) Acts 20:35 How is the verse counter-cultural?
- 6) Malachi 3:10 Why does God want us to faithfully give to the church?
- 7) Matthew 10:42 Why does God often use rewards to motivate us?

WEEK TEN: PERSPECTIVE

Opening Questions:

- 1) How do you know what God's perspective is?
- 2) How often do you read the Bible and gain wisdom?
- 3) How do you communicate God's Word to others?

Text Questions:

- 1) Isaiah 55:8-9 How does this passage help us drop our pride?
- 2) Romans 12:1-2 What worldly patterns do you need to break away from now?
- 3) 1 Peter 5:10 How does this verse encourage you?
- 4) Deuteronomy 30:19 What are the best daily decisions you can make?
- 5) 2 Timothy 1:7 How does this verse empower you?
- 6) 1 Corinthians 9:24 What is your God-given purpose?
- 7) John 15:16-17 How does this passage change your relationships?

WEEK ELEVEN: SERVING

Opening Questions:

- 1) How are serving and hope connected?
- 2) Why is it challenging to have people serve in churches?
- 3) What has been a positive experience for you with serving?

Text Questions:

- 1) Matthew 25:35-40 What does Jesus teach us about serving?
- 2) Romans 12:10 In what ways are you devoted to serve?
- 3) Joshua 24:15 How can your family serve God together?
- 4) Matthew 5:14-16 How does serving inspire and unite?
- 5) 1 Samuel 12:24 What motivates you to serve?
- 6) Romans 12:11 How do you serve your church family?
- 7) Galatians 6:9 When have you served with patience and persistence?

WEEK TWELVE: HOPE OVERFLOWING

Opening Questions:

- 1) How would you define hope?
- 2) What habits can you cultivate that increase hope?
- 3) When have you experienced an overflowing hope?

Text Questions:

- 1) Jeremiah 29:11 What kind of hope does God provide?
- 2) Romans 12:12 How do we choose hope together?
- 3) Isaiah 40:31 What is key to spiritually soaring each day?
- 4) Romans 15:13 How does this verse encourage and empower you in your relationships?
- 5) 1 Peter 1:3 How can we have confidence in Jesus and step out of feeling defeated?
- 6) Romans 5:3-4 How can the hope of God transform your family?
- 7) Romans 8:24-25 What has God promised to us and how can we cultivate hope?

