



EMPOWERED

Life in the Spirit

Discussion Questions: Week Three

1. In Romans 15:13, the Apostle Paul says, **“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.”** In this week’s message we discussed how our HOPE comes through our connection and partnership with the Holy Spirit. What significant ideas do you see in this passage?

How does this verse challenge you?

2. Dan shared the Greek definition of Hope, “Elpis” that means to have “confident expectation”. Read **John 8:32 - “You will know the truth and the truth will set you free.”** When you compare those who have hope and those who seem to live in hopelessness, what do you believe are the differences in what they believe?

Have you experienced times in your life where you can see that what you believed impacted your level of hope? Share your story.

3. In considering the 4-Step Encounter that brings hope, we see a progression: First, TRUTH is revealed. Second, We receive PEACE, Thirdly, we experience HOPE and lastly, these steps create ACTION. One commentator put it this way, “God does not just dump joy and peace into hearts without cause. But, as believers trust in God, their faith will bring joy and peace to their hearts.” Take time to share how you have experienced this process in your own life. How do you believe one’s trust in God and His truth is the starting point for this process?

4. In Judges 6 and 7, we find the story of Gideon's calling to save Israel from the oppression of the Midianites as well as his faithful obedience to do all that God commanded him to do. After listening to Dan's description of these events, how would these apply to your own life?

To what extent are you like Gideon OR what needs to take place in your life to bring you to this place of obedient action?

5. Dan shared the turning point for Gideon as well as the turning points for him in his own "journey toward hope." What turning points have you experienced that brought you to a new understanding and growth in this area? Could it be that this change has come this week and through this study? Please share.