

God Gives Us Hope



BIG IDEA

God gives us hope, even during difficult times.



LEADER GOAL

Help students understand that everyone experiences difficult moments, but the Bible teaches that God is with us and gives us hope. Introduce the Holy Spirit as God's gift to help and strengthen those who follow Jesus.



BEFORE STUDENTS ARRIVE

- Review Romans 15:13 and the Week 4 teaching.
- Have scripts ready and know where students are in the audition process.
- Be ready to explain hope in simple, age-appropriate language.



WELCOME + CONNECT



LEADER SAYS

"Welcome back, everyone!"

"How's the script reading going this week? Is anyone starting to feel more confident with the story?"

"Has anyone found a character they really enjoy reading, or maybe someone they relate to?"

(Allow students to share.)

"It's exciting to see the story coming together! Thanks for continuing to read your scripts each week."

LIVE SPARK

HOPE GIVES ME SOMETHING TO HOLD ONTO

GRAB

A life preserver (or small life ring).

IDEA

When life feels hard, hope is what we hold onto. It doesn't mean the hard thing isn't happening. It means we have Someone we can trust in the middle of it.

SPARK

When life feels hard, I can hold onto hope in God.

DO / SAY

[Hold up the life preserver.]

"What do you think this is?"

[Allow students to answer.]

"That's right! It's a life preserver. When do you need one of these?"

[Pause for answers.]

"Do you need it when you're safely standing on the beach?"

[Shake head.]

"Not really. You need it when you're in the water - when things are hard and you need help."

"A life preserver doesn't pretend the water isn't there."

"And it doesn't instantly take you back to dry land."

"It gives you something to hold onto while you're still in the water."

[Hold the life preserver close.]

"I think hope is a little like that."

"Hope doesn't mean pretending everything is okay."

"Hope doesn't mean the hard thing has already changed."

"Hope means that even when life feels hard, I have Someone I can hold onto."

"The Bible calls God the God of hope."

"So that's our Spark: WHEN LIFE FEELS HARD, I CAN HOLD ONTO HOPE IN GOD."

"The hard thing may still be happening... but I don't have to face it alone."

THEN

Move directly into Story of My Life | Hope in God Can Carry Us Through Tough Times.



STORY CONNECTION

STORY OF MY LIFE | HOPE IN GOD CAN CARRY US THROUGH TOUGH TIMES

LEADER SAYS

"In Shrek, there's a song called 'Story of My Life.' The fairy tale characters have just been forced out of their homes. They didn't choose what happened, and now they don't know what the future will look like."

"They're discouraged. They're disappointed. They've started believing that life will never get better. That's why they sing, 'That's just the story of my life.'"

"Have you ever felt like that? Maybe something didn't go the way you hoped. Maybe you didn't make a team. Maybe a friendship became difficult. Maybe something happened at school or at home that made you wonder if things would ever get better."

"We all have hard days. But the Bible teaches that difficult moments don't have to take away our hope. Listen to what the Bible 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."**

Romans 15:13

"The Bible calls God the God of hope. That means when life feels difficult, God can help us keep going. Hope doesn't mean pretending everything is perfect."



STORY CONNECTION

"Hope means believing that God is with us, loves us, and can help us through whatever we're facing."

Instead of "That's just the story of my life," remember: "God is with me, and He gives me hope."



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

LEADER SAYS

"Let's think about that together."

1

Why do you think the fairy tale characters responded by saying, "That's just the story of my life"?

2

Why can it be hard to see anything good when we're going through a difficult time?

3

What do you think it means that God gives us hope?

4

What's the difference between saying, "That's just the story of my life," and saying, "God is with me, and I can keep going"?



AUDITION CONNECTION

"Auditions are either coming soon or may already be on your mind."

"It's okay to hope for a certain role. But sometimes things don't turn out exactly the way we hoped."

"If that happens, it doesn't mean you've failed. It doesn't mean you're less important."

"Every single role helps tell the story."

"Whether you're playing a lead character, part of the ensemble, or helping behind the scenes, you are an important part of the K2K family."

"Your worth isn't determined by the role you receive. Your worth comes from being someone God created and loves."



SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?

LEADER SAYS

"Last week we learned that God promises to be with us. Today we're going to learn one of the ways He does that."

"Remember when we talked about Jesus coming back to life? After Jesus rose from the dead, He spent about forty days with His followers. Many people saw Him alive and talked with Him."

"Before Jesus returned to heaven, He made an incredible promise."

**"And now I will send the Holy Spirit, just as my Father promised."
"Stay here until the Holy Spirit comes and fills you with power from heaven."**

Luke 24:49

"Jesus wasn't leaving His followers on their own. He promised to send the Holy Spirit."

"The Holy Spirit isn't a what - the Holy Spirit is who. The Holy Spirit is God."

"The Bible teaches that when someone chooses to follow Jesus, the Holy Spirit comes to live with them. That doesn't mean we become God. It means God is always with us through His Spirit, helping us every day."

THE HOLY SPIRIT HELPS US IN THREE WONDERFUL WAYS

INWARDLY Helps us grow to become more like Jesus. Galatians 5:22-23

UPWARDLY Helps us pray when we don't know what to say. Romans 8:26

OUTWARDLY Fills our hearts with God's love so we can share it. Romans 5:5



SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

“God doesn’t just tell us to love others. He helps us do it.”

Isn’t that amazing?



STUDENT REFLECTION

LEADER SAYS

“Today we learned that God gives us hope, and that He gives His Holy Spirit to help those who follow Jesus. That’s a lot to think about! Let’s talk together.”

PROMPT The Holy Spirit helps guide us every day. What do you think that means?

Allow students to share freely and ask questions.



THIS WEEK - YOUR CHALLENGE!

KEEP GETTING FAMILIAR WITH YOUR SHREK SCRIPT.

“The next time something doesn’t go the way you hoped, instead of thinking, ‘This is the worst!’ try remembering today’s verse.”

“God is the God of hope, and He is with you even during hard moments.”

Bring indoor/dance shoes.

Bring your script and a labelled water bottle.



CLOSING PRAYER

LEADER SAYS

"Let's finish by talking to God together."

Dear God,

Thank You for bringing us together today.

Thank You for reminding us that even when life feels difficult, You are the God of hope.

Thank You for giving us the Holy Spirit to help, guide, and strengthen everyone who follows Jesus.

As auditions and rehearsals continue, help us trust You, encourage one another, and remember that every person here is valuable.

Thank You for our K2K family, and for the exciting journey ahead as we continue exploring the story of Shrek together.

Amen.

Connection Activities



SUPPLIES

Scissors • Glue • Markers/pencil crayons, etc.



WOULD YOU RATHER: SHREK EDITION

- Have students line up in the middle of the room.
- The leader asks a would-you-rather question and assigns each answer to a side of the room.
- Students answer by moving to the side of the room they would rather choose.

Example Questions

- Would you rather live in Shrek's swamp or Far Far Away?
- Would you rather eat slugs with Shrek or fancy royal food with Fiona?
- Would you rather be able to roar like Shrek or dance like Donkey?
- Would you rather wear Shrek's outfit for a week or Lord Farquaad's outfit for a day?
- Would you rather go on an adventure with Shrek or Fiona?
- Would you rather meet Dragon or the Three Little Pigs?



I BELONG TO GOD!

SUPPLIES: Scissors, glue, markers/pencil crayons, etc.

- Cut and paste activity.
- See activity pages provided with the original resource.