Faith at Home

Hebrews 10:32-39

Reflecting on Hope

- What is hope? On your own or with your group create a working definition of the concept of hope.
- According to our passage in Hebrews 10:32-29, what are we hoping for?
- Create two lists to compare and contrast what the world hopes in and what we hope in Christ. Your lists may look something like this:

Hope in the World	Hope in Christ
Comfortable life	Christlike character
Possessions on earth	Reward in Heaven

• How does having hope change our perspective? Can you think of a time in your own life where having hope changed the way you looked at a situation?



Reflections on Perseverance

• Our passage in Hebrews calls for perseverance in the face of challenge or suffering. How would you describe the role perseverance plays in our faith?

• Read Romans 5:3-5. On your own or in your group discuss how this passage relates to our Scripture in Hebrews.

- Verse 39 instructs us not to "shrink back" (NIV), "turn back" (GNB), "turn away" (NLT), "cut and run" (MSG), but to continue in our faith. Can you think of a time you felt like turning back, but chose not to? Maybe your personal example is faith related, perhaps not. Think about or share what it felt like to finish your task rather than shrink back.
- If there are young members in your group perhaps add to the discussion by talking with them about how diamonds are made from coal through extreme pressure. (If you would like an illustration, there are numerous YouTube videos available showing diamonds being made in a lab through pressure.) Talk about how God sometimes uses challenges to create character and teach us to be more Christlike.

For Families

After discussing what hope means and why we have hope in Christ, work together as a family to create reminders to hope. This can be a very open-ended activity in which each member of your family or group chooses an item they already have to represent hope in the face of challenges. Examples might include: an item in the shape of a cross, a rock picked up after a hike or climbing in the mountains, a picture of a special place etc.

If you prefer to make this activity more a craft, gather some river rocks and acrylic paint/paint markers. Have each member of your group create a picture or write a word on their rock that will remind them to have hope in Christ.

Keep the rocks or other items in a place where the can serve as reminder to hope. Maybe in a backpack, a pocket at school, in or on a desk at work. Follow up on this activity by checking in dinnertime or bedtime and sharing how the hope reminders focus you on hoping in Christ during the day.



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