

# HOPE

## The Assurance of Hope

### Romans 5:1-11 (ESV)

<sup>1</sup>Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>2</sup>Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. <sup>3</sup>Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, <sup>4</sup>and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, <sup>5</sup>and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. <sup>6</sup>For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup>For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— <sup>8</sup>but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. <sup>9</sup>Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. <sup>10</sup>For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. <sup>11</sup>More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

## Session 1

### Joyful Hope | Romans 5:1-2

Big Idea: Because we've been justified by faith, we have unshakable hope.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ with God.

2. Access to \_\_\_\_\_.

3. \_\_\_\_\_ in the Hope of Glory.

## Personal Journaling or Group Questions

Getting Starting: Read Romans 5:1-11 and reflect on the nature of hope. Who or what do you tend to put your hope in? What has this crisis revealed about those hopes? How have you been disappointed and disenchanted? Consider how the work of Jesus can give you fresh, joyful hope today.

Focus on Romans 5:1-2 and the three points from session 1 as you answer the following questions.

1. What areas of your life feel chaotic and out of control right now? How can your objective peace with God, rather than legalistic compulsions, breathe peace into those areas?
2. How does access to grace affect your understanding of the Christian experience? How would your daily life and relationships change if you really believed you were standing in grace (give concrete examples).
3. How have current circumstances clouded your view of future glory? Share ways, individually and corporately, you plan to meditate on and visualize that final day of redemption.

Wrapping Up: Share your greatest takeaway from session 1 and then end with prayer.