



HOPE IS HERE WEEK 1

START

To start, watch this video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xmFPS0f-kzs>

THINK

What battles have you faced in the year 2020?

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READ

Intentionally read the passage of Scripture below using the following pattern:

- **Prepare.** Turn off and put away your phone and any other distractions. Situate yourself in quiet and solitude. Calm your body and mind and pray that God would meet with you through His word.
- **Read.** Read the passage slowly and carefully. Pay attention to and reflect on words or phrases that stick out to you. Take your time.
- **Reflect.** Read the passage a second time. Let it speak to you personally. Ask how the text changes the way you live today.
- **Respond.** Talk to God about what the text brings up in you. Let Him know if you're moved, confused, upset, or thankful. Share whatever thoughts and feelings you have with God.
- **Rest.** Pause and sit in silence to conclude. Let God speak back to you.

ISAIAH 9:1-6

"Nevertheless, there will be no more gloom for those who were in distress. In the past he humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the future he will honor Galilee of the nations, by the Way of the Sea, beyond the Jordan—

²The people walking in darkness

have seen a great light;

on those living in the land of deep darkness

a light has dawned.

³You have enlarged the nation

and increased their joy;



they rejoice before you
as people rejoice at the harvest,
as warriors rejoice
when dividing the plunder.

⁴ For as in the day of Midian's defeat,
you have shattered
the yoke that burdens them,
the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor.

⁵ Every warrior's boot used in battle
and every garment rolled in blood
will be destined for burning,
will be fuel for the fire.

⁶ For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given,
and the government will be on his shoulders.

And he will be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

REFLECT

- **Who is Isaiah talking about when he mentions "son"?**
- **How do you think this message provided hope for the Israelites of that day?**
- **How do you think this passage provides us hope today?**
- **How have you experienced the hope of God in the midst of battle?**

PRAY

Begin by reading and meditating on this following prayer:

"Listen O Israel! The LORD is our God, The LORD alone! Love The LORD with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength, and love your neighbor as yourself."



Next: Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal the current battles you are facing. (5 minutes)

Then: Ask the spirit to reveal how you have been handling those battles. (5 minutes)

Finally: Ask the spirit to provide you wise counsel in handling those battles (5 minutes)

NEXT STEPS

Jesus as Wonderful Counselor is providing hope through provision in the midst of your battles. Jesus wants to equip you to face the battles you are facing. Submit to his way through abiding in him and practicing the spiritual disciplines.

The next time you are facing a battle, spend 5-10 minutes in silence. Ask the Holy Spirit to counsel you through that battle and provide the proper weapons in handling it!

LEARN MORE

If you want to learn more about Isaiah 9, watch this sermon!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MiqM_oje5vA