

# Life Group Discussion Guide

ALWAYS HOPES

Genesis 8:11

Stuart Jones - May 27, 2018



## INTRODUCTION

When the world was filled with evil, “God liked what He saw in Noah.” (Genesis 6:8 MSG)

Noah’s obedience was impressive as he started on a 70 year building project. His faith would be remembered throughout the generations. But imagine his hope. Year after year, as he worked on the ark, he must have hoped his efforts would be enough to save his family. When the rains fell and he witnessed unthinkable devastation, Noah must have hoped for better days.

“Then God turned His attention to Noah.” (Genesis 8:1 MSG)

The water started to recede and hope became sight.

## DISCUSSION STARTER

1. What was your favorite Bible story when you were a kid? Why?
2. Stuart said, “We’ve been overwhelmed by our share of floods too. Flooded by sorrow at the cemetery, stress at the office, nervousness over the test we’re not ready for, anger at the disability in your body or the liability of your spouse.” Tell the group about a time you were desperate for God to intervene and desperate for a sign of hope.

## EVALUATE IT

1. What do you think went through Noah’s mind when the raven, then the dove came back with nothing? Do you think he felt fear, despair, doubt or worry?
2. Stuart said, “Hope changes what we see.” How does hope affect our vision?
3. When the dove returned with the olive leaf, how do you think Noah responded? What does this simple leaf represent? How is Jesus an “olive leaf?”
4. Read 1 Corinthians 13:13. Why is love greater than faith and hope?

## MAKE IT PERSONAL

1. What can we learn from Noah's story about placing our hope in our Heavenly Father and getting through the moments when fear, doubt and despair start to creep in?
2. The olive leaf meant dry land and that called for celebration. Since we have been given something 10 times greater, how should we respond? How can we give out olive leaves?

## SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

"Remember Red, hope is a good thing, maybe the best of things"

- Andy Dufresne (Tim Robbins), The Shawshank Redemption



Interested in joining or starting a Life Group?  
Contact our Life Groups Minister.

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