

TALK IT OVER

NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE WITH GOD

ICEBREAKER (Start Talking)

What's something you waited a long time for, and what did it teach you about patience?

INTRODUCTION (Start Thinking)

Throughout Scripture, God's people waited for the Messiah for hundreds—even thousands—of years. As time passed, many began to doubt God's promise. But when the silence was broken by two angelic visits—one to Mary and one to Joseph—God reminded the world that *nothing is impossible with Him*.

READ (Start Sharing)

(Read Isaiah 9:6*; Micah 5:4*) God promised again and again in the Old Testament that a Messiah would come—the One who would bring light, peace, and restoration. Although Israel was becoming impatient, God's timing was perfect, even when it felt like silence. **Have you ever had to wait for an answered prayer? Share about that time in your life. How do you stay confident in God's promises when His timing feels slow?**

READ (Start Sharing)

(Read Luke 1:38*; Matthew 1:18–24) When the angel appeared to Mary and Joseph and told them Mary, as a virgin, would give birth, and her child would be called the Son of God, it seemed impossible. Yet both Mary and Joseph chose to believe God's word over their doubts. **When God's plan doesn't make sense to you, what is your reaction? What can you do to trust God more?**

READ (Start Sharing)

(Read John 14:3*; 1 Thessalonians 4:16*) Just as surely as Jesus came the first time, He has promised to come again to renew all things and make His home with us forever. God's past faithfulness gives us confidence that He will keep this promise. **How does remembering what God has already done strengthen your hope in what He will do in the future?**

PRAYER (Start Praying)

Dear Lord, thank You for always keeping Your promises. When our faith feels weak and waiting feels long, help us remember how You've proven Yourself faithful again and again. Strengthen our hope in Your return and help us live each day trusting that nothing is impossible with You. In Jesus' name, amen.

READ GOD'S WORD DAILY using S.O.A.P.

Day 1:

For a child is born to us, a son is given to us. The government will rest on his shoulders. And he will be called: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace... - ***Isaiah 9:6 (NLT)**

Day 2:

And he will stand to lead his flock with the Lord's strength, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. Then his people will live there undisturbed, for he will be highly honored around the world. - ***Micah 5:4 (NLT)**

Day 3:

Mary responded, "I am the Lord's servant. May everything you have said about me come true." And then the angel left her. - ***Luke 1:38 (NLT)**

Day 4:

When everything is ready, I will come and get you, so that you will always be with me where I am. - ***John 14:3 (NLT)**

Day 5:

For the Lord himself will come down from heaven with a commanding shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet call of God. - ***1 Thessalonians 4:16 (NLT)**



WHAT WILL YOU DO?

Pray about leaving a lasting legacy, by giving to our 25+ Ministry Partners, through this year's Kingdom Builders Offering at NHWW.org

This Holiday season, build God's Kingdom by **praying** for your family and friends, and **inviting them** to join us for our Christmas Services!

TIPS FOR ONLINE SMALL GROUP

- 1. HOSTING A SMALL GROUP MEETING ON ZOOM.** If you are interested in hosting a small group on zoom through New Hope Windward, let us know. Our small group team will help you get started. Zoom training is available.
- 2. EMAIL INVITE.** Ensure to send out a calendar invite with the meeting details and how to connect to the meeting platform on zoom.
- 3. REMINDER DURING THE WEEK.** Keep everyone in your group connected by sending a reminder during the week of your upcoming small group meeting.
- 4. START ON TIME & STICK TO YOUR TIME SCHEDULE.** For your scheduled meetings, it's recommended to get started within 5 minutes of your scheduled start time. Most small group meetings are held for about 60 minutes.
- 5. ZOOM'S BEST PRACTICE.** Familiarize yourself with the Zoom features on your electronic device. It is helpful for everyone to know where the mute button is located. Ask the attendees to self-mute to avoid environmental noise when someone else is talking & sharing. Doing this will help with the flow of your SG discussion time.
- 6. DOWNLOAD ZOOM APP.** In order to participate in the Online Small Group, download the Zoom App from your iPhone or Android. You may also download the Zoom App from your laptop PC or iPad device. You can also meet on web-based platforms such as "Google Meet".

TIPS FOR IN-PERSON GROUP

- 1. START & FINISH ON TIME.** Doing this will show your small group you value their time.
- 2. BE COMFORTABLE WITH SILENCE.** Uncomfortable silences are bound to happen. It's okay! A long pause during a group discussion can be powerful. A *pause* gives space for quieter people to break into the conversation; silence allows people to figure out exactly what they would like to say.
- 3. CONFIDENTIALITY IS IMPORTANT.** Confidentiality is the key to building trust in relationships. Here are a few mottos to remember to be confidential: "What is said in small group, stays in small group." **Nothing, nobody, never...** "*Share nothing, to nobody, never*" outside of the group.
- 4. MAKE GROUP A PRIORITY.** Communicate in advance when you will be unable to attend by either calling and/or texting your host or responding to the zoom email invitation by accepting or declining. This will help your host to plan accordingly especially if it is an in person small group gathering.
- 5. AVOID TALKING or TEACHING TOO MUCH.** Small groups are designed for everyone to share and grow together.
- 6. ASK FOR HELP.** The Small Group Ministry is here to help. Email smallgroups@nhww.org to ask any questions, request training or other assistance for your Small Group.