

# Youth



## ✔ Prepare in Advance

Facilitator: In advance of the session:

- Retrieve, review, and have ready the video's listed below (links are provided on this session's webpage).
- Have the *Bible Background Video* ready to view.

## ✔ Promises

Read Isaiah 61:1-11

Watch the *Bible Background Video* for this session.

Use these questions to facilitate discussion.

- What have the people suffered through at the beginning of the passage?
- What promises of restoration do they receive? Does it bother you that those things never happened? Why or why not?
- Do you think this text gave them a false hope? Why or why not? Do you think it is right to give someone false hope? Why or why not?
- How could you make an argument that there is no such thing as false hope?
- Why would the writer write these words of hope and restoration?

## ✔ Attitude

Play the Shawshank Redemption movie clip. Start at the .30 second mark to avoid an inappropriate word.

- What do you think about this message of hope? How does it compare with this week's text?
- Andy argued that hope was good, even in prison. Why did Red think it was dangerous?
- Do you think hope is dangerous in a hopeless situation? Why or why not? What good can come from hope even if it is never realized?
- Do you think hope has more to do with your own attitude or your circumstances? Explain.
- What does it take to have hope even in the most hopeless circumstances?

## ✔ Hope

Play the clip from "A Walk to Remember".

- How does this song relate to our discussion so far?
- Mandy Moore's character is dying of cancer in this movie. How might that change the meaning of the

song she sang in her play? What part might that kind of hope play in her life?

- What are some situations where teenagers might struggle to have hope? What would you say to someone in those situations?
- Do you think God has abandoned us if our situations do not result in a favorable outcome? Why or why not?
- What do you think it is the purpose of hope in our lives? What happens when we abandon all hope?

Close in prayer.

**By Don Breedon**

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