WOODVALE
PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

# Connect Group Sermon Aligned Discussion Guide.

**Series Title**: CHRISTMAS PROMISES SERIES Part 1 - Hope
**Key Scripture**: Psalm 145:13, Isaiah 9:1
**Recorded Sermon**:
www.woodvale.ca/pastservices/v/christmas-promises-series-part-1-hope-december-1-2024
**Date + Speaker**: December 1st, 2024. Pastor Mark Scarr

**Main Point**: No matter what happens, hold on to hope.

**Starter**:
When you were a child, was there a (Christmas/birthday) gift you were longing to have?

**Discussion**:
In Psalms 145:13 it reads: "...The Lord is trustworthy in all he promises and faithful in all he does."

- What is your favourite promise from God written in the Bible?
- Can you recall a time when God fulfilled that promise for you?

In Isaiah 40:1 God promises to comfort us.

- How do you like to be comforted?
- How can you recognise when someone needs comfort and what are ways for you to be there for them?

(Isaiah 40:1 "Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.")

**Diving Deeper**:
Isaiah 8:22 "Then they will look toward the earth and see only distress and darkness and fearful gloom, and they will be thrust into utter darkness." The word "gloom" has the idea of dimness and despair.

- When you're in a difficult situation and find yourself in despair, how do you push through and keep hope alive?

Isaiah 9:2 “The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.”

- We are called to be the light of this world.  How do you shine your light for all those around you to see?

John 7:41 “Others said, “He is the Messiah.” Still others asked, “How can the Messiah come from Galilee?” Some Jews could not believe something good (Jesus) could come from a not so good place like Galilee.

- What makes you think God would choose a place like Galilee?
- Is there a time where God brought something good from something that you or other people might have deemed to be bad?