



Small Group Guide | **Week 5**

## Hope of Salvation

---

### Review Questions: The Hope of Jesus' Second Coming (5–10 minutes)

- Jesus started something that is continuing, and He promised that one day He would come and finish the job. What do we lose if we do not have confidence in the second coming? How can God's will be done on earth as it is in heaven if Jesus does not return?
- Because of the varied perspectives on the second coming of Jesus and the degree of mystery about the timing of it, how can we maintain humility about our beliefs? One thing to remember is that our views on the second coming and heaven, while important for our actions, are not matters of salvation.

### Watch

#### Week 5 Video | Hope of Salvation

[Session Video](#) (18 minutes)

### Read these Scripture passages aloud:

#### **Romans 8:19-21 NIV**

<sup>19</sup> For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed. <sup>20</sup> For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope <sup>21</sup> that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God.

#### **2 Corinthians 5:17 NIV**

<sup>17</sup> Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

## **Ephesians 2:8-10 NIV**

<sup>8</sup> For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—<sup>9</sup> not by works, so that no one can boast. <sup>10</sup> For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

---

## Head

### **What is the Hope of Salvation?** (5–10 minutes)

Summarize 3–5 points of the message of this video.

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 

## Heart

### **Reacting to the Hope of Salvation** (10–15 minutes)

1. The word salvation means being rescued from something. Wright says that in biblical terms, salvation means saved from something and for something. What are we saved from and saved for? How does this fit with your view of salvation?
2. The biblical perspective of salvation is that the same power that liberated Jesus from death will do that to all creation. The whole creation will be saved. Paul expresses this in Romans 8: 21-25. Have you ever thought about this? How does it strike you? Strange? Exciting?
3. Wright says that salvation and judgment go together. Generally, we think of them as opposites, but Wright says that we are saved from something and saved for something and that includes not just us but the entire world. Judgment has to do with setting things right. How do you see the link between salvation and judgment?

## Hands

### **Living the Hope of Salvation** (10–15 minutes)

*We continue to consider: as people of the hope, having confidence in the hope of salvation, how can we be moved to action and bring hope right where we live today? What are some practical implications for our world, our community, and our lives? How is Jesus our model?*

1. *When God created the world, He put people here to reflect His image and wise order. What can believers do to reflect the presence and image of God into dark and confused places of this world?*

2. *Ephesians 2:8-10 says we are not saved by good works, but for good works. How might your life look different in one of the following areas if you committed to do good works for the glory of God on a regular basis?*
  - *Your family*
  - *Your work*
  - *Your neighborhood*
  - *Your church*
  - *Anywhere else you go regularly*
3. *Discuss the progress of your small group service project. If it is completed, then do a debrief of it (what went right, what went wrong, what could have been done better) for future planning.*

---

## Conclusion

### *For Those Reading the Book During this Study*

*Chapters 10-12 correspond to this week's video.*

“... the work of salvation, in its full sense, is (1) about whole human beings, not merely souls; (2) about the present, not simply the future; and (3) about what God does through us, not merely what God does in and for us.”

### *Take Away*

What are you going to take away from this study today?

### *Closing Prayer*

Holy Father, we pray for the time that creation will be set free and restored. Holy Spirit, convict us of life patterns and behaviors that do not reflect the image and glory of God, so that we can repent of them. Jesus, we thank You for being the righteous judge and author of our salvation. In Your name we pray, Amen.

### SCRIPTURE MEMORY

Spend the next six weeks memorizing and meditating on one verse, Romans 15:13. Even if your time is limited, this is possible!

#### **Romans 15:13 NIV**

<sup>13</sup> May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Memory Tip:** Write the verse in longhand several times over the next few days. If you don't like writing, speak the verse aloud emphasizing different words each time..