

### Opening Discussion:

What is your favorite thing about the Christmas season? What are some of the activities you look forward to? Share your Christmas memories with your group—

### Opening Prayer:

Begin your time in prayer—ask God to open your eyes to see what He wants to say to you through this time together.

### Getting into God's Word

Did you have any comments or questions from this Sunday's message? Take the time to look through your sermon notes and talk about any questions you had.

*Read Psalm 42 and 43*

1. What stands out to you in this passage?
2. Three times the Psalmist begins to rehearse his reasons for pain and despair and three times he seems to catch himself - what types of things is the Psalmist dealing with? What message does he 'preach' to

himself in the midst of these hard times?

3. Have you ever experienced anything like the Psalmist was going through? How did God lead you out of that season?
4. Have you ever 'preached' to yourself in the midst of your trials and difficulties? What message did you speak? Were you able to praise God in the midst of your difficulties?
5. Is there a situation in your life right now where you feel like the Psalmist, where you are losing hope and courage? How can your group pray for and support you? What message do you think God is calling you to preach to yourself in this season?

*Read Romans 5:1-11*

6. What stands out to you in this passage? How does hope feature in this passage?
7. In this passage, Paul tries to help us understand trials and difficulties in a new way—in light of eternity. Why can we rejoice in trials and difficulties? What can they produce in us if we view them rightly?

8. Reflect on your relationship with God—how can it be made stronger through the trials and difficulties we go through?
9. A major focus of this part of Romans (and especially Romans 8:31-39) is the idea of how much God loves us. As you look at your life, and the trials and difficulties you have experienced, how have you grown in your understanding of God's love? How are you sharing His love with those around you?

### Prayer

Close your time by praying for one another—  
Pray for any burdens or hardships that your group members have. Pray as well for friends and family members that you would like to see come to know Jesus—pray that in this season there would be an openness to the things of God.

## Sermon Notes

## Group Listing

### **Mondays:**

*Leaders:* Ron and Faye Ford, Weston and Eleanor Voytechek

*Location:* The Wein's Home in Camrose

*Time:* 7:30pm

### **Wednesdays:**

*Leaders:* Nathan and Jenn Pollock

*Location:* The Pollock's House in Camrose

*Time:* 7:00pm

*Leaders:* Gary and Sandy Mize, John and Ineke Tessari

*Location:* The Mize's Home in Camrose

*Time:* 7:00pm

### **Thursdays:**

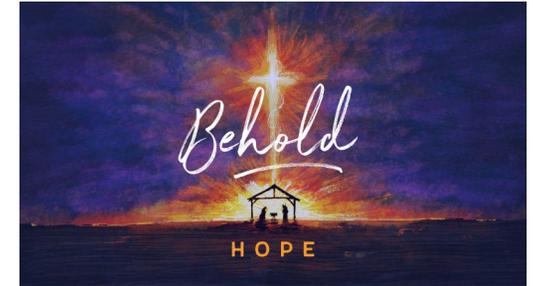
*Leaders:* Jessica and Andreas Schwitter, Mark and Carla Werner

*Location:* CentrePoint Church

*Time:* 6:30pm

For location information or leader contact information please contact Pastor Nathan at:

Nathan@centrepoinchurch.ca



### **Behold: Hope**

*December 2, 2018*

### **Personal Reflection and Practice:**

How is your 'hope meter' these days? How is it at work? At home? At school? Spend some time this week reflecting on the different areas of your life. Take stock of relationships and situations and examine your hope levels—are there places you are having trouble trusting God? Are there places you are doubting how God can bring good into the situation? Bring these situations to Him and spend some time asking Him to restore your hope!