

Small Group study guide

Luke 8:40–56 It's all about Jesus pt.5 Giving Life & Hope

Big idea: Jesus has the power to heal and give life. Christian hope is rooted in him, and even death does not have the last word.

1. Hope when life is hard

- What stood out to you from the two stories in Luke 8:40–56?
- The talk described problems that can feel pervasive, permanent and personal. Why can these leave people feeling helpless or hopeless?
- Can you think of a time when a small sign of hope helped you—or someone else—keep going? What made a difference?

2. The woman who reached out to Jesus

- The woman had suffered for many years and was socially excluded. How do you think she felt as she approached Jesus in the crowd?
- The talk said her faith was not in the hem of Jesus' garment, but in Jesus himself. What does this teach us about faith when ours feels small or weak?
- How might we offer hope and welcome to people who feel ashamed, excluded or "untouchable" today?

3. Jairus: when hope seems lost

- Jairus trusted Jesus, but the delay meant his daughter died before Jesus arrived. How might Jairus have felt—and have you ever felt that events were getting worse just when you hoped for help?
- What does Jesus' raising of Jairus' daughter show us about his authority and power?
- How can we support someone whose prayers for healing seem unanswered, without offering easy explanations or minimising their grief?

4. A hope stronger than death

- The talk described Christian hope as an anchor for the soul. What makes that picture helpful when life feels stormy or out of control?
- How does Jesus' resurrection shape the way Christians understand death, suffering and the future? 2 Corinthians 4.16–5.7
- Read Revelation 21:3–4. Which promise in these verses do you most need to hear today, and why?

5. Putting hope into practice

- Who might need us to "hold hope" for them this week? What could we do or say that is practical and caring?
- What is one thing you can take away from this passage to help you trust Jesus in your current circumstances?

Pray for those facing illness, grief or hopelessness; ask God to help you share his hope with gentleness, patience and love.

There is a helpful free 30 minute training on helping people who may be feeling suicidal at: <https://zerosuicidealliance.com/suicide-awareness-training>