Bringing it Home

1. Where is your hope right now? Are you currently placing the majority of your hope in things/people/the world or in God? Even Christians can get off track and place their hope in something/someone other than God. On a scale of 1-10 (1=low, 10=high), where is your hope in God right now? Are you ready to place more of your hope in God?

2. The next step is to repent and give all of your life to God. Place your hope in God and He will give you the riches of His love. What is holding your back from doing this? Pray to God and repent right now, that you may have the hope He wants to give you.
Small Group Questions

Getting Started
1. The video, “My Hope America,” talked a lot about hope. What part of the video did you like best? Whose story was most interesting to you (football player, magician, or musician)? Why did that story hold your attention?

2. It’s easy to feel hopeless these days. What’s going on in the world that challenges your hope? What do you see on TV, read in the newspaper/on the internet, or hear your friends, co-workers and neighbors talking about? What “hopeless” messages are challenging you right now?

Digging Deeper
1. Read Psalm 42:5. The Bible is clear about who we should hope in, but there are many temptations to place our hope in things and people, instead of God. Where do you see this happening in the world around you? Instead of placing their hope in God, in what are they placing their hope?

2. There may have been a time in your life when you placed your hope in things (or people), instead of God. What turned you around and brought you back to God? What was that process like for you?

3. Let’s look at some verses on hope. What do these verses tell us about where we should place our hope and how we can stay hopeful even when everything around us tells us the opposite?

   Psalm 130:7

   Isaiah 40:30-31

   John 14:5-7

   Romans 8:24-25

   Hebrews 11:1

   I John 3:1-3

4. Hope in God can be a powerful force in our lives. When have you experienced this power in your own life? For example, when have you hoped in God and seen victory over fear or doubt?

5. Placing our hope in God requires turning from the world (sin) and turning toward God; this process is called repentance. Read the following verses and talk about what happens when we repent of our sins.

   II Chronicles 7:11-14