

Media



✔ Prepare in Advance

Facilitator: In advance of the session:

- Retrieve, review, and have ready the videos and music listed (links are provided on this session's webpage).
- Review today's scripture text and the session activities to help better facilitate the discussion.
- Have the *Bible Background Video* ready to view.

✔ Intro

Start your session by having a volunteer read Isaiah 60:1-9 out loud and then immediately display the *Bible Background Video*.

✔ Home, Sweet Home

Open your discussion by playing a little game if time allows. Have each person write down on a little slip of paper where they are from (or where their family comes from). Take the next few minutes reading a slip and having the group guess whose it is. If time does not permit, just briefly share where you're all from.

After this opening foray, display the clip entitled 'Where Are You From' and allow for comments, then follow up with a few questions like the ones below.

- What sorts of things can we guess just by knowing where someone comes from?
- Are you more of a product of your home or is your identity in spite of your home?
- What does today's Scripture tell us about those unable to go home?

✔ There's No Place Like It

Watch the clip entitled 'Longing for Home' from the new *Hobbit* movie.

- You may have never read the book or know much about the dwarves in this clip, but what would you guess about their home judging from the song they share?
- Do you ever wish to go back home? Why or why not?
- Thomas Wolfe said "You Can't Go Home Again." What do you think he meant?
- How was the memory of home a sort of deception to the exiled Israelites?

- Have you ever revisited your hometown to find it changed? What was that like?

✔ A Small Light in a Dark Room

Finally, show the "You Are Heroes" clip. You may want to explain or refresh people that the lady in the clip is supposed to be Miep Gies who is a prominent character in the story of Anne Frank and hiding from the Nazis.

- What's the difference between being haunted by your history (like Isaiah) and being propelled by it (like Miep)?
- From our standpoint, we can see Jesus' coming in the Isaiah passage, but obviously the Israelites couldn't. How can we be hopeful for others even if we don't know all the details?
- How can we be like that "small light in a dark room?"

✔ Outro

End your session by praying that each person would be reminded of the home we find in Jesus and that the security of that belonging would glow from within us.

By Rory Naeve

Church Websites

Get FaithLab to develop your new church website and help support FaithElement.

faithlab.com

faithlab