

Small Group Study Guide



O Holy Night **Dec 1, 2019**

OPENING PRAYER

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the individuals who wrote this amazing Christmas Carol and the message of hope that it gives us. And we thank you for giving us hope in Christ Jesus. Today, we pray that you would show us and teach us how to find hope in the midst of a weary world. We pray this in the name of Jesus. Amen.

SCRIPTURE:

Lamentations 3:20-26 New International Version (NIV)

20 I will remember them, and my soul is downcast within me. 21 Yet this I call to mind and therefore I have hope: 22 Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. 23 They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. 24 I say to myself, "The Lord is my portion; therefore I will wait for him." 25 The Lord is good to those whose hope is in him, to the one who seeks him; 26 it is good to wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord.

Romans 13:11-12 New International Version (NIV)

11 And do this, understanding the present time: The hour has already come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. 12 The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light.



INTRODUCTION

In the song O Holy Night, it says “*A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices. For yonder breaks a new and glorious morning.*” If there are two words that accurately describe our world today, I'd say it's ‘**weary world!**’ Many people today can relate to that phrase. But the song also reminds us that you can still experience hope even if there's a weary world in you. But how is that possible?

You can experience a thrill of hope inside your weary world and you will find the faith to rejoice, why? Because even in the chaos of this night, there is a new and glorious morn. The next day when the sun comes up, the Savior has been born, and on the new and glorious morn everything is different because a day with Christ can change everything. A day with Christ brings exactly what you need, it brings us hope to keep going, and it brings the help that you are seeking.

QUESTIONS

- 1) What is your favorite Christmas Carol?
- 2) Has there ever been a time in your life that God provided for you exactly what you needed when you needed it?
- 3) Have you ever felt abandoned by God when going through difficult circumstances? Were you able to see God's presence in your circumstances after you came through the other side?
- 4) Read Romans 13:11-12 on page 1. Where in your life are you hoping the morning will come? How can you set your hope in Christ while you wait?
- 5) Talk about a time in your own life or the life of someone you know when good eventually came from adversity. How did that event influence your faith? Does it give you hope for the future?

FINAL APPLICATION

What steps do you need to take to begin letting go of your fear?