

**Advent Candle: HOPE**

**Romans 5:12**

**Takeaway #1**

HOPE always begins with HOPELESNESS.

**Takeaway #2**

Let the God of your salvation be the hope above all the counterfeits

Romans 5:13

**BIG TAKEAWAY:**

Hopelessness relinquishes its hold on us through the power of God's salvation story.

- 1) When you think of "hope" what comes to mind? Can you think of an example in your life of what it looked like to Hope?
- 2) Paul quotes Isaiah 11:1 in Romans 15:12. For Isaiah, what was the hope of the Gentiles? Why would this have been such surprising news to the Gentiles?
- 3) What is one thing in your life that you are tempted to place your "hope" in other than Jesus? Why do you look to that thing for hope? Have each person in the group share.
- 4) Look at the prayer of Paul in Romans 15:13. What is he praying? How would you put that prayer in your own words? What do you think that kind of life would look like?
- 5) Where do you most need the hope of Jesus this Christmas? How can this group walk with you as you come into this season?