



Lesson Three
**HOPES AND
FEARS ARE MET
IN JESUS**

1. Hope and Fear - two sides of the same coin

2. Fear expresses the anxiety that our hopes will not be realized (see Isaiah 43:1-3a)
 - a) A people in bondage (trouble) wonder if they will ever get out or if God will ever help

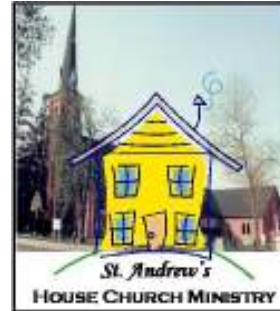
 - b) We need to remember God's promises even if they don't provide "instant" relief

3. The serendipities of hopes and fears met in Jesus (see John 4:1-26)
 - a) Let's be practical! The well is deep and Jesus doesn't have a bucket

 - b) Let's be optimistic! No need to come and daily draw water

 - c) Let's get real! Hopes and fears are much more profound than we think they are

d) Let Jesus meet your hopes and fears



FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION

- For further personal reflection
- To share with family or a friend
- For further study and discussion at House Church, a home-based, small group for learning and growing together. (Please see the bulletin for details about times and locations)

Warm up: Share a time or experience when you were afraid.

1. Why are hope and fear so closely linked in life's experiences?
2. The people of Israel were in exile and bondage when Isaiah wrote of God's unswerving commitment to them and his promise to deliver them. What were they afraid of?
3. How does delay in realizing a hope or dream or goal impact your attitude and cause you to be afraid?
4. In Jesus' encounter with the woman at the well, he turned everything upside down in her life. Discuss how he responded to the following statements:
 - a) You don't have a bucket to draw water with
 - b) How can I have this water so that I will not have to come here every day to draw water
 - c) I don't have a husband
 - d) Someday the Messiah will come and we will worship Him on the mountain of God
5. How is hope and faith much more than simply being optimistic about the future?