

Covenant Hope

All of the Scripture passages used in this exercise are taken from the list in your student book (pages 81–82). These Scripture passages concern covenants or promises that provide an image of hope in a future messiah. As you answer the questions below, remember that these texts were recorded by communities of faith that had hope, often in extremely difficult circumstances.

1. Summarize, in your own words, the major ideas from the Scripture passage your group chose.

2. Which words or images in the passage most strongly convey hope? Explain why.

3. Many Jews in Jesus' day were expecting a triumphant messiah who would restore Israel to glory, even though many prophecies of the Old Testament present a different view. What kind of a messiah is portrayed in the reading you chose?



4. Can you think of a group of people in the world today that, because of their culture, race, nearness to war, poverty, and so on, resemble the people depicted in the Scripture passage you read? Describe these people, the place they live, and the circumstances they are presently experiencing as precisely as you can.

5. If Jesus Christ, the Messiah, were to walk among the people you described, what do you think he would do or say?

6. How can we give witness to hope in our everyday lives?

