

# HOPE

A Good Place to Find Life

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## Small Group Discussion Guide — May 10, 2026

- Series: The Basics
  - Sermon: Head and Heart
  - Scripture: Romans 10: 8-11 (ESV)
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### **CONNECT**

What's one thing that instantly makes you feel grounded or at peace?

### **FOLLOW-UP FROM LAST WEEK**

Were there any times during the past week when condemnation tried to creep back in and capture you again? If so, how did you respond?

### **ENGAGE**

Read Romans 10: 8-11.

1. What do you think Paul means when he says, “the word is near you”?
2. Why do you think Paul connects both inward belief and outward confession to faith?
3. Why do you think Paul specifically emphasizes Jesus' death and resurrection, rather than simply believing that God exists or that Jesus was a good teacher? What makes belief in Jesus' death and resurrection difficult, compelling, confusing, or meaningful to people today?
4. When you hear the phrase “Jesus is Lord,” what emotions or reactions come up for you?

### **APPLY**

1. Paul places the emphasis on the object of faith — Jesus Himself — rather than on having perfect certainty or strong faith. How does that challenge or encourage you?
2. What do people commonly place at the center of their lives for meaning, security, identity, or hope? Where do you see yourself in that?
3. Have there been seasons when faith felt more intellectual (“head”) or more emotional/personal (“heart”) for you? What shaped that experience?
4. Our culture often separates spirituality from the rest of life. What do you think an integrated faith might look like in everyday life — at work, in relationships, in stress, or in decision-making?

## **PRAYER**

Father, thank You for giving us such clear and life-giving words through Paul the Apostle in the book of Romans — showing us how we can come into true faith through the death and resurrection of Jesus. Thank You for the gift of salvation, a gift we could never earn and without which we would be truly lost. Help us to live in the freedom and eternal life You offer us, staying close to You and walking daily in the guidance of Your Holy Spirit. Amen.

## **GOING DEEPER**

As we conclude this series, reflect on the “Romans Road” we’ve walked through together:

- Sin is universal — Romans 3:23
- God demonstrated His love through Christ’s death for us — Romans 5:8
- Sin leads to death, but God gives eternal life — Romans 6:23
- In Christ, there is no condemnation — only freedom — Romans 8:1-2
- Confess and believe that Jesus is the risen Lord — Romans 10:9
- “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved” — Romans 10:13

As you look back across the “Romans Road” passages, which idea is hardest to accept, and which one gives the most hope? Why?

## **ADDITIONAL SCRIPTURE**

Deuteronomy 30: 11-16