Welcome to New Hope Church

A Christ-centered community for all peoples, moving toward Jesus and taking others with us.



We'd love to get to know you. Fill out the New Here form.









GIVE ONLINE

NEED PRAYER?

NEWS & GIVING REPORT

Thanksgiving Gathering & Offering

Wednesday, November 24, 6:30pm, Worship Center. An evening filled with prayer, worship, personal reflections and stories of God's faithfulness over the past year. This year's Thanksgiving offering will be shared with Arrive Ministries. Giving is open through November 30.

Christmas Shop Volunteers + Donations

Sign up to volunteer on December 10 or 11. November 21–December 5 we are collecting new, unwrapped gift donations for ages 0–18. Drop off at the Main Campus. Shop online! Visit newhopechurchmn.org/christmasshop.

Career Opportunities

Use your gifts, talents and skills to bless NHC. See current career opportunities at newhopechurchmn.org/careers.

Hymn Sing

1st Thursdays (December 2), 2–3pm, Worship Center or livestream. An old-fashioned hymn sing. Stay after for fellowship hour in Sandberg Chapel. Visit newhopechurchmn.org/seniors.

Ways to Give

Thank you for your generous giving to New Hope Church. You can give through the NHC App, by check or online at newhopechurchmn.org/give.

Volunteer

Serve with the Worship or Tech teams. No experience necessary and training provided for Tech positions. Explore a variety of opportunities at newhopechurchmn.org/serve.

Get the most current information at

newhopechurchmn.org







Discussion Guide

November 21, 2021

GARDEN Song of Solomon 4:16-5:1

CONNECT

1. Think of the family in which you grew up. What did it feel like for you to come home at the end of the day? Was the thought of "home" nurturing or nervous?

GOING DEEPER

- 2. Read Genesis 1:27–31. What was this home like that God created for His children? How would Adam and Eve have felt to live in this home? How does this demonstrate what "home" is meant to be?
- 3. Solomon and his bride delight in each other, feeling perfectly safe with each other. What is it about true love that inherently creates a feeling of safety in the beloved? (1 Corinthians 13:4–7, Song of Solomon 7:10)
- 4. Jesus entered a garden, called Gethsemane, where He wrestled with the call to obey the Father and go to the cross. What differences can you see between Adam and Eve wrestling with obeying God in the Garden of Eden and Jesus wrestling with obeying the Father in the Garden of Gethsemane?
- 5. Read Isaiah 51:3. Is God's desire to punish or to redeem? Does God desire to destroy or to rebuild? Based on this, how should we deal with the "wilderness" areas of our own lives? What does God want to do with them? (John 3:17)
- 6. Revelation 21–22:5 describes our heavenly home, the new Jerusalem that God prepares as a safe, delightful city for those He loves. Creation begins with Eden, a fully good home, and ends with the New Jerusalem, an eternally safe home. What does this tell you about the heart of our God, who made both?
- 7. Read John 15:1–8. Jesus is the vine and the Father is the vine dresser, the gardener. How can we thrive in this garden? How can we wither? Whose decision is it as to whether you will flourish or wither? How will that shape the way you live your life?

ACTION

8. Song of Solomon 4:16–5:1 describes this couple at home with each other, feeling safe, secure, loved and happy. They express this romantically, but this kind of safety is something we should create for everyone in our lives. Throughout your life, who has created the most nurturing "home" you've ever experienced? How did they do it? Share a few of these stories. Then make a list of practical steps we can learn from these stories about how we can create a safe, nurturing space wherever we go.