

#myHOPEstory



stories of hope

all about Jesus

easter2020



HOPE COMMUNITY
CHURCH
BARLANARK

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We hope watching these videos have made you think about your life and even ask “How can I have my(own)HOPEstory?”

If so this booklet contains 4 questions to consider along with answers that will give you HOPE.

Q1) What's the point?

'This is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God...'

John 17:3

Have you ever considered what is the point of life?

Is it to be successful, have fun or make a difference?

How we answer this changes how we live and what we pursue.

When life is about ME we spend life pursuing our own desires. We look for joy in relationships or feelings, in people or a buzz.

But the bible tells us life isn't us, it's about God.

We've been created by a GOOD and HOLY God.
We find meaning and joy by KNOWING and OBEYING him.
He's not an evil dictator, selfish manager or abusive da.
He's our kind king, caring boss, and loving Father.

Knowing and obeying God is the secret to joy.
Knowing and obeying God is the point of life.

Q2) What's the problem?

**'For all have sinned and fall short
of the glory of God.'**

Romans 3:23

We usually think our problem is our past / present circumstances.
It's what I've went through or what I'm going through.
If only this hadn't happened... if only this would change...
Then things would be better.
And many of us do have brutal circumstances.
But the bible tells us our problem is deeper than that.

We need to realise that WE are the problem.
We are our own worst enemies.
We reject God as our kind King, caring Boss and loving Father.
We tell God to do one, because we're the boss, we know best.
We know what we need to be happy so won't obey anyone else.

The bible calls our rebellion sin, and sin has ruined everything.
It has broken God's perfect world.
It has brought despair and death to each one of our lives.

We've told God where to go, and so, in part, he's went.
He's let us live life our way.
But we soon realise that sin doesn't satisfy, it always disappoints.

And one day we will die and face this GOOD & HOLY God as judge.
Because we've rebelled against him, he'll treat us as rebels.
Because we've broken his law, he'll punish us as law breakers.
Because we've told him where to go, he'll remove his goodness.
And if we think things are bad now, that will be HELL forever.

And this is on us.
Our own sin is the problem.

Q3) What's the solution?

'For God loved the world in this way: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.'

John 3:16

So far it's all been bad news but there is good news to give HOPE...

For although we run from God, he ran to us.

God was born, in the person of Jesus, to enter his broken creation.
He lived life as we should, in relationship with & obedience to God.

But on the cross Jesus died a sinners death that he didn't deserve.
He took HELL for his people, and was punished in their place.

Yet Jesus didn't stay dead.

On the 3rd day he rose.

The sin that holds us, couldn't hold him.

He defeated sin, death and hell.

And now he reigns from his Father's side in heaven.

So Jesus is the way we can have our relationship to God restored.

Nothing else can deal with our problem.

Nothing else can give us lasting joy.

Jesus, and only Jesus, is the solution.

Q4) What's it to me?

**'Believe in the Lord Jesus,
and you will be saved...'**

Acts 16:31

Today Jesus is at work by his Spirit to bring his people to find HOPE in him.

So IF;

We realise there is nothing we can do to save ourselves...
We admit we are rebels who have rejected God's loving care...
We throw ourselves on the love and grace of Jesus...
We believe he died for, us taking the punishment we deserve...
We stop living for sin and start living for Jesus...
Then we can know HOPE for ourselves

And Jesus promises to change us from the inside out by His Spirit.
He promises to give us a new family, his church.
So together we live to KNOW JESUS.
And together we live to MAKE JESUS KNOWN.

If you want to have your(own)HOPEstory then...

**Stop rejecting God. Start trusting him.
Turn from your sin. Turn to Jesus.**

**Right now if you pray and ask God to save you he will.
Then get in touch so we can live to KNOW JESUS together.**

**Contact us by visiting www.hopebarlanark.com
or emailing myHOPEstory@hopebarlanark.com**