

HOPE RISING

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS | WEEK 5

1. Read 2 Kings 5:1-17. Why do you think the young Israelite girl was willing to help the man who had taken her from her home and made her a slave? Have you ever helped a person who was literally oppressing you? Read Luke 6:27-36. How does God expect us to react to people who oppress us? Why?
2. Pastor Rick talked about the idea that many people see themselves as victims of all kinds of oppression. Do you think a Christian should claim that they are unable to succeed because they are being oppressed? Did the young girl in the story act like a victim would? How do you know?
3. Pastor Rick talked about people who have a defeatist mentality, what do you think that means? Read Romans 8:31-39. According to this passage, is there ever a reason for us to have a defeatist mentality? Why?
4. Pastor Rick said that we should turn our misery into a ministry opportunity. How did the young Israelite girl in the story do this? What was the result for Naaman? If we are to do the same, in what way do we need to let God change our normal way of thinking?
5. Read Romans 12:17-21. God tells us that we should never seek revenge on anyone. What does this passage tell us as to the reason why we should never seek revenge? When we let go of our need for revenge, what does that free us up to do instead?

Answer – Revenge is God's job, not ours. We are not to seek revenge because if we do, we are taking God's job away from him and doing it ourselves instead. When we allow God to take revenge on those who treat us wrongly, we are freed up to treat them with mercy the way God wants us to.