



# Christmas at The Cove

## Week 3 – Hope For My Messed Up Life

### Study Guide

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Having hope when life is messed up isn't easy. Sometimes it doesn't look hopeful—it looks like a disaster. We concede defeat, rather than cultivate hope. However, God can change what is messed up. We hope that He is taking us on a journey that will transform our lives. Jesus was born a King. As King, He has the power to fix our messed up lives. We were made to do amazing things under His leadership.

1. We were created to follow great leaders. Winning armies follow a top-notch general, successful organizations have exceptional CEOs, and growing churches have inspirational senior pastors. What qualities do you look for in a great leader?
  
2. **Read Matthew 2:1-2.** The Wise Men were moved to look for a newborn king and they obeyed immediately. This week's message hit on giving Jesus complete authority in our lives so He can help our mess. Why is immediate obedience better than a delayed response, or no obedience?

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“Because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.”  
- Romans 10:9 (ESV)

3. **Read Romans 10:9-10.** We also learned this week that “you can't grow on the down low.” Why is confessing or committing to something out loud so important? What are some examples?

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“Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.” - Hebrews 10:23 (ESV)

4. **Read Hebrews 10:23-25.** This passage reminds us that hope-filled people help us to hope! How do you intentionally connect with people who are full of hope on a regular basis? How are you the hope-filled person for others?
  
5. Here's a challenge: In order for Jesus to be able to help our messed up situation we need to give Him all authority in our life. Discuss some strategies to 1) Obey immediately what God is telling you, 2) Confess/commit out loud to His leading, and 3) Surround yourself with hope-filled people. As you experience hope this Christmas, be sure to extend that hope to others by inviting them to experience Christmas at The Cove!