

The logo features the words "UN SPEAKABLE" in a bold, black, sans-serif font, stacked vertically. To the right of this text, the word "Hope" is written in a blue, cursive script font. The background is a light gray with faint, large letters "S", "A", "K", "E" visible.

December 8, 2019

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**BiG iDEa:** God invites me to be a carrier of Hope in the face of fear.

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*Growing Deeper* this week...

Have you ever had a moment that took your breath away? This is life as it is meant to be. The kind of unspeakable, take-your-breath-away life that Jesus alone can bring. Take some time throughout this week to read and reflect on what God's word says on the subject from the Bible passages below. Some questions are provided for you or a small group of friends to provide focus for your reflection. Before your start: Breathe, pray, ask the Holy Spirit for help.

### Identify

When you think about things you desire most in life, what category do they generally fall in: 1) wishful thinking or 2) expectant hope that they will be fulfilled?

### Read

*Scriptures to grow by...* Isaiah 11:1-5, 10, Romans 15:4, 8-13, Matthew 12:18-21, 1 Peter 1:3.

### Reflect

1. What words, phrases or ideas stand out to you from the Bible readings you read today? What do you think God may be leading you to consider about being a carrier of hope in places where pain and discouragement are present?
2. How do these words, phrases or ideas connect with your everyday life? What do they lead you to think or to do?
3. Read Matthew 12:18-21. On Sunday, Doug said, *Jesus comes to fan our flame, not snuff it out; to bind up our wounds not break us down with "I told you so's."* How do you respond to this statement based on what you just read? Is there anything going on in your life right now that you might want to bring to Jesus?

### Respond

*Moving forward...* Jesus continues to be on mission all around the world... and all around you. What are some signs of Jesus' presence you see in your life and the lives of those in your circle of influence? Perhaps you can ask Jesus for strength to be a sign to others... a carrier of hope in a world that needs some good news that the advent of Jesus is here.