

HETTIE BRITZ

THE ROAD TO



LEADER GUIDE

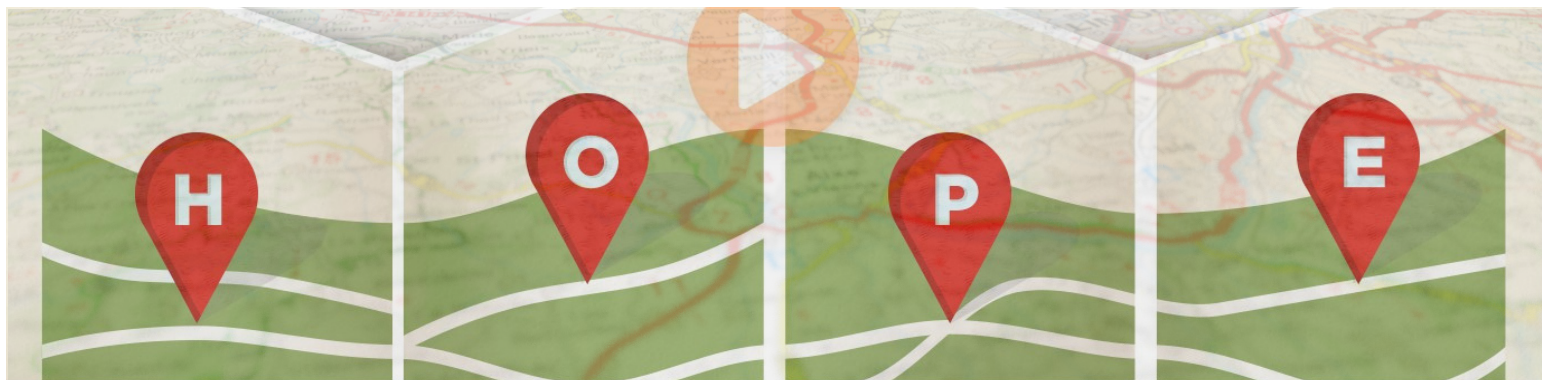
 Hope In Our Design

 Hope In Grace

 Hope In Healing and Forgiveness

 Hope In Freedom from Fear and Worry

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Hope In Our Design

▶ Video 1

What you will need as a leader:

The most value your group can glean from this study would come from integrating the content of the four videos with a personal journey of growth based on the Tall Trees Leadership Profile for adults, that can be found and completed at www.talltreestraining.com

However, the completion of these profile es are optional, and when finances are a constraint, you may choose not to include the Tall Trees Personality & Leadership Style Profiles as a resource, but may choose to make these optional to bible study members who would want to dig deeper on their own.

It's highly recommended that you as a group leader would complete your Tall Trees Leadership Profile, and Tall Trees Profiles would love to know when you intend to sign up a group to this study. Please contact us at hettiebritz@talltreestraining.com for one free TTLP for you as group leader, in order to explore whether your group may benefit from doing their TTLP's before starting with this study.





Hope In Our Identity

After watching the video, slowly read these statements to your group, one by one, and encourage them to count how many of these statements they can boldly identify with.

- I am under God's plan,
- a special agent of Christ Jesus
- the focus of His love
- adopted into His family
- celebrating His lavish gift giving
- I am abundantly free!
- I am in on His plans
- In Christ Jesus I know who I am and what I am living for
- God has designs on me for glorious living
- I am home-free, signed, sealed, and delivered by the Holy Spirit for a purpose – a praising & glorious life
- I can see exactly what it is He is calling me to do
- Oh, the utter extravagance of His work in me – endless energy, boundless strength
- At the center of all this, Christ rules the church – by which He fills everything with His presence.

Discuss what such an identity statement could mean for how we live each day, if we truly embraced it.





Check your level of burn-out

Re-read Matthew 11:28-31 from The Message translation.

- Have you ever felt the kind of burn-out on religion that Jesus speaks of in this passage?
- How have you been able to "get away and recover your life"?
- Can you identify the hard yokes that did not fit the "shape of you back?"

If your group members completed their own TTLPs, direct them to the sections called "Fields of Greatness", and "Forces Within", and let each of them read through their Fields of Greatness, while others contribute ideas of where these fields of greatness can serve your church in a way that is life-giving and not burdensome.

- How do these forces within relate to the spiritual gifts the Holy Spirit has given you?
- Have you ever "answered a phone that wasn't yours"? What was the outcome?

A statement to read to your Bible Study members:

Character and **temperament** are not the same.

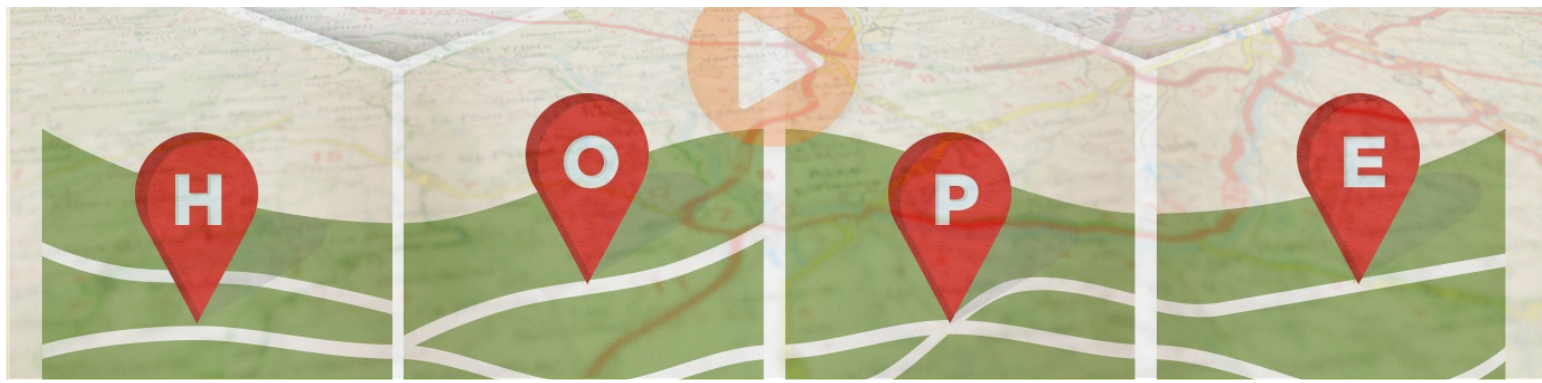
Temperament is the raw material that we are born with.

Character is what God develops in us through perseverance (See Romans 5).

Temperament types are never an excuse for ungodly character.

Discuss this statement with your group.





Endless energy, boundless strength

Read to your group:

Romans 5:13 says that we can "brim over" with hope. A hopeful person is a full person. You and I are full when we receive input from God and others, and when we engage in activities that are life-giving to us. Some of these may be very frustrating to others, simply because our designs are so diverse.

Have your group member's page to the Fertilizer section in their TTLPs.

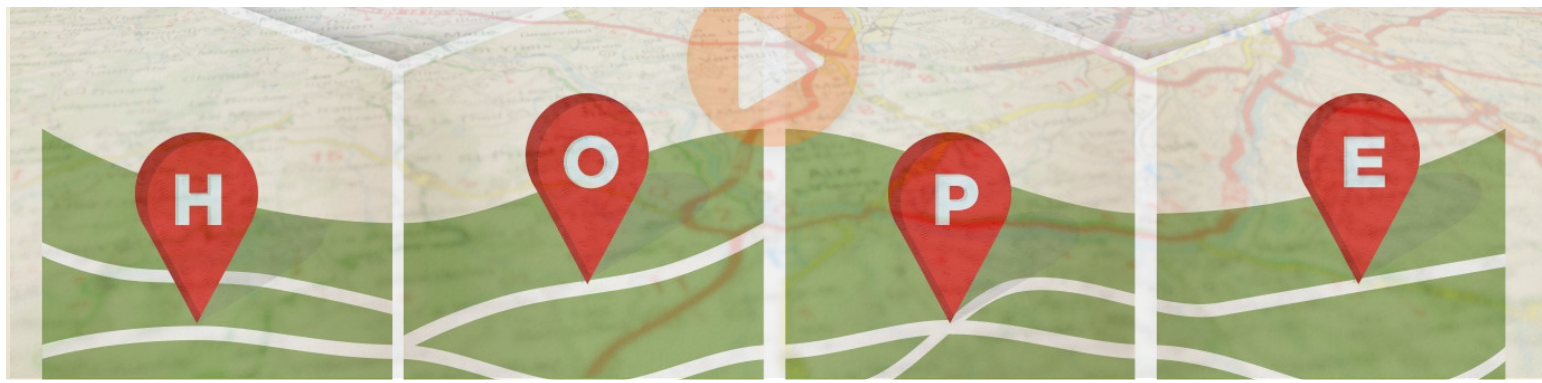
- Can you name one item on your Fertilizer list that adds hope to your life and enables you to give hope to others, even in small and everyday ways?

Have your group member's page to the Fertilizer section in their TTLPs next.

- Can you identify times when these areas that your temperament type usually struggles with ended in victory, because God enabled you to persevere in spite of it?

- Do you have a personal story of perseverance towards character and, ultimately, hope?





The summaries below may help you as a leader in this discussion:

Rosebush: Rosebushes are designed to overcome difficult challenges and high energy tasks. To them, difficulties are energizing and even exciting! However, being in a place where they are not challenged, not given responsibility, and not chosen for leadership, will bring about the most character growth. It may also occur when their own unexpected weakness, illness, or mistakes stand in the way of their usual achievement, dealing a blow to their pride, thus producing more Christ-like character.

Boxwood Tree: Boxwood Trees are great at noticing all of the details, creating structure and order in their lives and the lives of the people around them. However, when life becomes uncontrollable and unpredictable, Boxwoods face the character test of their lives. When the details change along with the timelines, and they cannot perform to their usual level of excellence, they are forced to find their hope in what God can do instead of what they can do themselves. This produces surrender and trust.

Pine Tree: Pine Trees are creators of harmony and peace. They are all about relationships and unity. Their greatest challenge comes when they are lifted out of that comfort zone of peaceful relationships into a space of insecurity and conflict. Their greatest test occurs far from their comfort zone, when they cannot hold onto familiar circumstance and familiar people. This is where they finally find their anchor in God alone as their most faithful Friend. They learn to venture into the unknown anchored to Him.

Palm Tree: Palm Trees are people movers, and enjoy the limelight that goes with being the center of attention. However, when their popularity is suddenly taken away, their reputation suffers, people speak ill of them or show open dislike or disapproval, they are stripped of their "cloak of many colors" in the way Joseph was when he was no longer the favorite. To find value and integrity in an inward knowing that what they do is good, instead of in an outward approval by an appreciative audience, is where a Palm Tree grows the most.

How do your stories line up with these summaries of the journeys of these four main tree types?





Hope In Grace

▶ Video 2

What you will need as a leader:

If you choose to, you can download the free Bible study guide about 10 Commandments of Grace at www.hettiebrittz.com and follow its links to 10 YouTube videos that tell the more detailed story of Hettie's Kilimanjaro climb. You may want to incorporate some of those questions into this study for those who enjoy meaty theological discussions!

Hope In Grace

After watching the video, discuss these questions with your group:

- Have you experienced that "The law leads from the front; Grace leads from behind"?
- Do you ever see signs in your church or family circle that "The law loves only the strong; Grace favors the weak"?
- Does your personality type struggle with this principle or with other aspects of being last, slow, weak, in the back, or excluded?
- Which prestigious spiritual achievements do you see others (or yourself) striving towards, in the same way Hettie strived to carry her own backpack to Uhuru?
- Is this statement true? We sometimes have to give up our prestige, and even personal principles, in order to come to the Person of Christ, through grace?
- When God promises to make our sins, that were as scarlet, white as snow, what does it mean to you?
- Have you ever experienced that God covered the mess you have made in life, instead of shaming you about it?



If your group members completed their Tall Trees Leadership Profiles and know which "tree types" they are, read these "mountains" to them and ask if they can identify whether these were the "slopes" on which they learned or are currently learning grace:

Rosebush mountains: illness, unemployment, incompetent leaders above you, weakness in yourself, waiting, losing, struggling with a task you know you should be able to do

Boxwood mountains: discouragement, insecurity, fear of mistakes, harsh words said to you, unknown factors in your future, details and people beyond your control, who still influence your life, injustice

Palm Tree mountains: loneliness, boredom at work, dead-end situations, a lack of new and beautiful things and opportunities, criticism from someone you look up to, exclusion, feeling invisible and unappreciated, temptations to act immorally

Pine Tree mountains: disruption, conflict with close family or friends, forceful leadership above you, extreme pressure, a fast-paced or full schedule, cold or unfriendly surroundings, physical discomfort

(For more about the link between our personality type and our spiritual journey, consider inviting Hettie Brittz (<http://hettiebrittz.com/contact/>) to present her workshop called, "Understanding your spiritual journey.")

• Having listened to the song, "You were there on the mountain", can you relate to these lyrics?

**"You were freedom
You were favor
You were glory
You were grace"
and**

"Jesus you were singing your salvation in my ear."

Invite your group members to sit in pairs or groups of three to pray for each person who is carrying a burden, suffering from unnecessary shame and feeling too weak and unacceptable for Christ.

Pray that each person will have a fresh experience of **"grace, like water, flowing to the lowest place."** – Philip Yancey.





Hope In Healing and Forgiveness

▶ Video 3

After watching the video, discuss the following:

- Do you interpret **Revelation 1:17** as meaning that Jesus literally holds the key to death and that only He can walk us through the door between this life and the next?
- If that is true, would it be easier to forgive those who played a part in a loved one's death?
- How does this relate to Jesus forgiving his murderers?

Forgiveness made easier by seeing a sinner

In Hettie's book, *Fearless. Free.*, she tells how she was aware of her own sinfulness while being attacked, and how it helped her to forgive. Have you had a similar experience, or would you need to ask God to show you your own sin?

Forgiving love is available to all except those who don't think they need it. The gentle words of Jesus are for those who realise their own need for grace. Such people know better than to point an accusing finger at a fellow sinner ...

I look at us on this floor. 'You sinner, me sinner. Do we ever need a Saviour!'



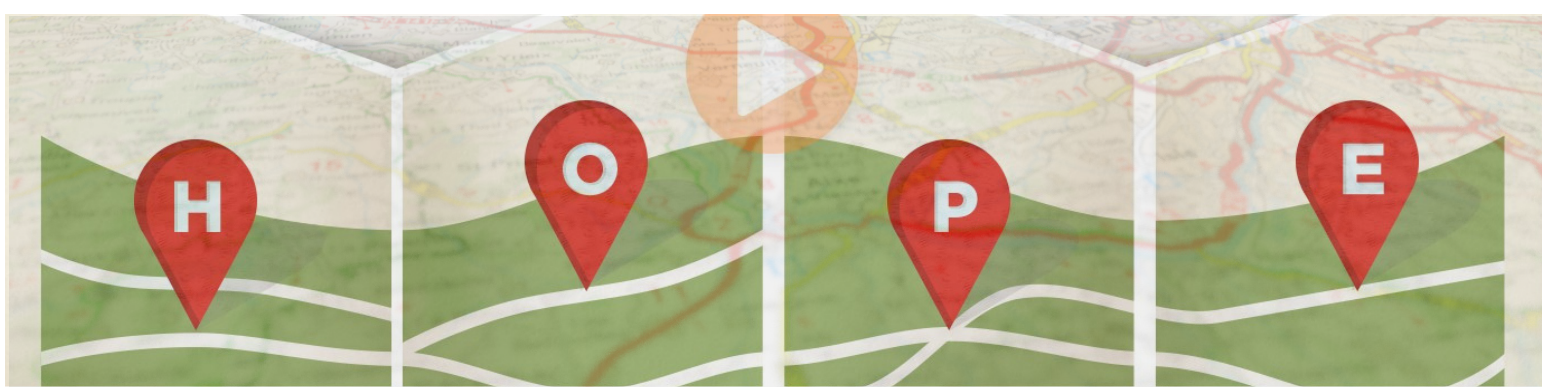
Forgiveness made easier by choosing grace over justice

- Discuss this statement: Justice doesn't heal anyone.
- Have you experienced being in the "hands of the torturous" while you entertained bitterness toward someone? How did God bring you to a place where you realized your need to forgive that person?

Forgiveness made easier by looking beyond the individual

- Have you ever prayed that God would show you how He feels about the people who hurt you? Why would it or did it make a difference?
- If you looked at your perpetrator as minor character in your story, instead of the author of your fate, would it make a difference to your ability to forgive them?
- Reading [Genesis 50:20](#), would you say that Joseph's speech could be summed up in these words: "If I believed you wrote my story, I would have had to take revenge, but I believe God writes my story, and that you give yourself way too much credit for the fact that I am standing here today!"
- Jesus became sin for us, so that we can be the righteousness of God ([2 Corinthians 5:21](#)). If He stood in the place of my perpetrator and paid for the sin committed against me, why would I want my perpetrator to pay as well? Is what Jesus suffered not enough?





Forgiveness made easier by seeing the gain

A Jewish woman in a concentration camp left this note before being killed in a gas chamber:

**Oh Lord, remember not only the men and women of goodwill,
but also those of ill will.**

**Do not remember all the suffering they have inflicted on us;
remember the fruits we bear, thanks to this suffering –
our comradeship, our loyalty, courage, generosity,
the greatness of heart which has grown out of all of this.**

**And when they come to judgement,
let all the fruits that we have borne be their forgiveness.**

- What choice did this woman make that made her able to say these words?
- Reflect on what you have gained from going through the toughest experiences of your life.
- Would you be able to thank those who hurt you for the fruit that hurt has produced in your life?





Forgiveness made easier by the “forget goat”

- Do people keep the goats that bleat about your sin, or do you keep their goats in order to remind them of their sin against you?
- Whose goat would you like to silence today?

Encourage your group members to pray through these truths and to embrace that when this is hard to do, Jesus on the inside enables us to act supernaturally! He makes us able to echo these words from today's song:

“I'd hate, if I could help it
I'd struggle to forgive
But Love is here,
And I can live!”
- Louis Brittz





Hope In Freedom from Fear and Worry

▶ Video 4

Fear not!

After watching the video, discuss the following:

- Is it hard for you to believe that you will not be judged ([1 John 4:17-18](#))? What makes God's love difficult to trust?
- Discuss the statement: The breastplate of righteousness protects our hearts from forgetting that we have been made blameless by the blood of Christ. Without it, we feel constant fear of judgment.
- Does personality type play a part in how fearful we tend to be, or in the type of fear that affects us? (If your group members have completed their TTLPs, you can direct them to the section about "Frostbite". These are factors that may influence their fears.)

A small life

- How can fear make our lives small?
- How has fear stolen freedom, movement, friendships, "pasture" or "living water" from you, by keeping you away from these blessings of God?
- What would you need to embrace so that you can leave the small sheep's pen and venture out into open pasture? ([read John 10:10](#))





Sources of fear and worry

Help your group members identify the lies that fear may have "told" them:

You will not be ready, and therefore won't make it though it

God will not be there for you

God does not hear or see you

I have to protect my at all cost

It will be the end of life as I know it if

• Can you share a testimony of God's preparation before a crisis?

• During their ordeal, Louis said to Hettie, "I'll see you on the other side," being certain that they both would be killed that night. Do you derive any encouragement from this? Why or why not?

• Is there a "gecko tail" you still keep "taped on" so that you can defend yourself against losses that you fear? If you let it go, what would you gain?

After listening to the ministry song, discuss or pray about these lyrics:

"The greatest gift of all must be

The home You made in me."

– Louis Brittz



