## Leader Conversation Guide – Holding on to Hope: Eternal Perspective

#### **Main Idea**

This week, Pastor Brett finished our series 'Holding on to Hope', and posed the question. "Have you ever felt overwhelmed?" The feeling of being overwhelmed is when everything seems to be "too much". Work responsibilities, relationships, politics, traumas, life changes, and so many other of life's circumstances can cause us to feel overwhelmed. When we feel overwhelmed, instead of telling God how big our problems are, we should be telling our problems how big our God is! With the right support, we can take Next Steps and find ourselves having an Eternal Perspective!

HOLDING ON

ΤO

# "My life is no longer than the width of my hand. An entire lifetime is just a moment to you; human existence is but a breath."

PSALM 39:4-5

#### Make It Practical - Begin to live with an Eternal Perspective

- 1. <u>I will guard against materialism.</u> Luke 12:15 says, "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions."
- 2. <u>I will be generous</u>. Be generous not only with your giving. But with your time, your talents. Generosity gets the focus off of me, and on to others.
- 3. <u>I will focus on what matters.</u> 1 John 2:17 reminds us, "The world and its desires pass away, but the man who does the will of God lives forever."

# Talk About It

- Which part of this message was most impactful for you and why?
- How can we begin to recognize when we have moved beyond "having things", to the place that our things begin to "have us"? How can generosity protect us from the "disease" of materialism?
- To focus our time and energy on the right things, we will need to say "no" to some other things. Those who have difficulty saying no end up over-committed, overwhelmed, and ineffective. Share how being able to say "no" can change your priorities.

# "You've got to put your behind in your past."

-PUMBAA

#### **Prayer**

Father, thank You for giving us the example of Jesus. Teach us the rhythm of life and how to get in step with the Holy Spirit. Help us fulfill Your purpose for our lives and build something that far outlives and outlasts us. Order our steps as we submit our schedules, responsibilities, and relationships to You. It's in Your mighty name we pray, Amen!

### **Leader Tip**

Have Group Members pair-off (men with men, and women with women) then exchange prayer requests and phone numbers or email addresses with other. Encourage them to pray for and connect with each other throughout the week.