

*No matter how
dark the path gets,
God has promised us
He will be with us.*

15



Hope

A Light in a Dark World

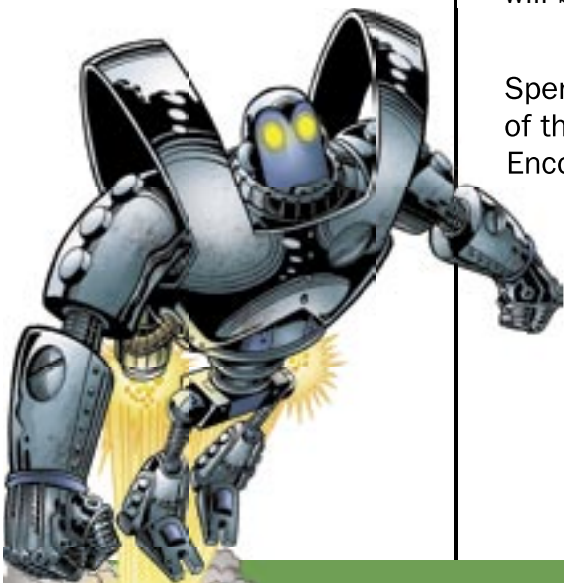
What is hope? Hope is when you wish for something and you expect it to happen. It is more than just wanting something. It's wanting it and knowing it will come to pass. As Christians, we have an ultimate hope: That Christ will return and set this world back in order. We don't just wish for it to happen. We have confidence it will happen. We have hope.

Your students need that hope. The world they face is full of despair and disappointment. Many kids feel like they have no hope. Some will attempt suicide, others may pull away from reality through cutting, drinking, drugs, or sex. Some kids may turn inward and withdraw from the world as their coping mechanism.

Instill in your kids the promise that hope brings.

Things really can get better. No matter how dark the path gets, God has promised us He will be with us. "And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age" (Matthew 28:20, NIV). In Psalm 23, David remarks that even if he were near death (the valley of the shadow of death), God will be with him. This entire psalm is one of hope!

Spend time encouraging your students. Many of them have lost some of the innocence of childhood and face the stark reality of our world. Encourage them by showing them the hope we have in Christ.



Holsom Comics Discussion Questions

After kids have read [Welcome to Holsom. Issue 15](#), begin a discussion about hope by asking these questions:

- How does Rover show an understanding of God's Word while talking to Mouse and Jorge? (*He said they needed a deliverer, and that there is always hope.*) Do you think Rover's insight is puzzling to the boys? (*Answers may vary.*)
- Do you think the boys and Rover have hope? Why? (*Answers may vary.*)
- How does Lucy's faith in God help her while she's trapped in the cave? (*In the last issue, she quoted Scripture to remind her of God's faithfulness.*)
- How do the adults show they have hope they'll find Lucy? (They pray and ask God to protect her and help them find her, they search for her.)
- How does Noah react to Lucy's disappearance? (*He blames himself and blames Shelby.*)



Psalm 23 Today

Preparation: Write out Psalm 23 on a large poster board or on a whiteboard or chalkboard. As a class, discuss what it means and rewrite the psalm as if you were the original author. As you rewrite the psalm, discuss what hope means to the class, what they put their hope in.

